MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

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Editorial.

THE SOILING SYSTEM.

We took occasion, last week, in replying to the question of a correspondent of the *Ploughman*, to allude to the soiling of cattle, or the keeping of cattle in the barn and feeding them with green food cut and carried to them during the summer months instead of allowing them to run in the pasture. We did not express a very high opinion as to its economy in this country, and perhaps from want of a proper appreciation of its utility we may have failed to state the matter with perfect fairness. We alluded to the fact that in Europe the soiling system is quite common, indeed in many parts of Europe, it may be said to be universal. The European writers on agriculture have therefore been very minute in stating its advantages and the details of this mode of feeding. These advantages are claimed to be the following:

First, that it is a great saving of land.

Second, that it is a great saving of fencing.

Third, that it is a great saving of food.

Fourth, that the cattle are kept in better condition.

Fifth, that it produces a greater quantity of milk.

Sixth, that it greatly increases the quantity and the quality of manure.

The late Josiah Quincy adopted the soiling system on his farm in Quincy, in this State, as long as sixty years ago, and followed it up for many years with highly satisfactory results, and claimed that he realized every one of the advantages as mentioned above. He maintained that one acre "soiled from" will produce as much as three acres pastured. Many European writers assert that the difference is very much greater than that, and fix it at seven acres, that is one acre used for soiling will maintain as much stock as seven acres pastured. But then land is cultivated very differently there and the one acre would be enriched and cultivated in succulent crops which would yield an immense amount of feeding material.

As to fences, of course it renders all interior fences entirely useless. All these can be dispensed with, so that the plough can can run through any length of land without the expense of stopping and turning, thus saving all headlands and the great waste they entail. It makes a vast difference in the general economy of farm management, whether we are obliged to run short furrows and be spending half the time in turning round, to say nothing of the nursery for weeds which every old wall furnishes. It may often make the difference between a profit or a loss in a farming operation.

As to economy of food, cattle will eat in the stall what they will reject in the field or the pasture. Running at large they tread down and otherwise injure about as much good grass as they consume. They not only destroy much, but they injure the future productive power of a great deal more. That is all saved by keeping them in the stall and cutting and carrying the food to them.

As to the condition of the cattle and their greater comfort, they are supplied in the stall at regular times with food in sufficient quantity. With proper provision made previously by a systematic plan of cultivation, they can never fail, let the season be what it will, of always having the best food and enough of it. In the pasture they are left to take care of themselves. They are subject to accidents, to worrying from other cattle, to the varying state of the pasture which often suffers from drought. In stall feeding they are independent of these changes. Their food is uniformly sufficient, they are not compelled to drink bad water, as cows at pasture too often are, they escape the annoyance from flies and the heat, and in every way the owner can take such care as to promote their comfort and that improves their condition.

As to the quantity of milk produced by this mode of keeping, the testimony is uniformly in its favor. In the early spring with the grass all fresh and luxuriant in the pastures, milk may be for a short time given in larger quantity at pasture, but this is of short duration. As soon as the pastures grow short, and the flies begin to trouble, the milk falls off, and then the stall feeding has all the advantage. Taking the season through, therefore, the soiling system will produce the most.

As to the greater economy of manure there can be no question. Stall feeding gives every possible opportunity of saving and properly treating manures, and every farmer knows that manure is absolutely necessary to successful farming.

Mr. Quincy used to say that one square rod of land of good loam in high cultivation, in grass, barley, or Indian corn was enough to support a cow well one day, if the product of this rod was cut and carried to her in the barn. But in laying out plans it is wise to make liberal calculation and we ought to plant or sow a rod and a half or two rods per cow for each day that the product is expected to last. Suppose, for instance, a certain article sown in the spring, will come to maturity so as to be fit on the first of July and will continue succulent ten days; fifteen square rods of that will be wanted for each cow soiled. One cow will consume fifteen square rods during that period and ten cows will require say an acre. And so a regular and minute calculation as to the kind of plant to cultivate, and the quantity of land to devote to it, may be made the previous season, and the whole system is prepared for beforehand and carried out with precision throughout the season.

To produce the requisite succession, the various crops must be sown at different times, making calculation for a rod and a half to two rods per cow. A piece of winter rye is convenient as it grows so early and so rapidly in spring. Then sow oats as early as the 5th or the 10th of April, or as soon as the land can be moved, at the rate of four bushels per acre. About the 20th sow oats or barley at the same rate and proportion. Early in May sow one or both of these grains again. From the 10th to the 15th of May sow Indian corn in drills three bushels to the acre, in like quantity and proportion. About the 25th sow corn again, or Hungarian grass. And again about the 5th of June sow Hungarian grass or corn or both, and again on the 15th and the 25th.

The first sowing of oats will be fit to cut for soiling about the 4th of July and will continue succulent till the middle, and so on with the other crops.

PLEASANT OCCASION.

Benj. P. Ware, Esq., of Marblehead, Master of the Massachusetts Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, last week, invited the members of the Grange to visit his farm and inspect his crops. The party spent a few very delightful hours in examining the farm, which is situated on one of the most beautiful bluffs along that picturesque shore, and includes that curious and interesting ledge known as Gun Rock, that at certain states of the tide is as noisy as the Spouting Horn at Nahant, a formation not unlike that of Gun Rock.

Mr. Ware is one of the most intelligent and thrifty of farmers or market gardeners in the State. His crops of vegetables, mangolds, onions, and cabbages were superb, while the pears hung in the greatest profusion and the apples were a sight to behold. We have'nt seen anything to surpass them. The party was most hospitably entertained at a table set bountifully from the products of his own farm, and that included the sweetest of fish and lobsters which are taken in abundance near the shore. It was an occasion long to be remembered.

THE SEASON.

We have had no rain, at the time of our going to press for about three weeks, and the weather since the beginning of the month, has been altogether warmer than it was in August. The result has been that many kinds of fruit have fallen from the trees rather prematurely, though the abundant moisture in the ground has carried along the fall feed luxuriantly in most places, though here and there it has been browned and parched by the drought. The foliage has changed its color gradually and has been uncommonly brilliant. The warm weather was needed for corn.

COMMERCIAL MANURES.

One or two cases of gross variation in the advertised constituents of a popular fertilizer have already been detected, and farmers cannot be too careful in the purchase of fertilizers. Let them be on their guard, and see to it that the parties with whom they deal are legally licensed. Unless they are good and law abiding men the only rule of safety is to have nothing to do with them. The names of delinquent manufacturers and dealers will soon be placed in the hands of the State Constable and made public.

WORCESTER NORTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Exhibition of the Worcester North Agricultural Society will be held at Fitchburg, on the 29th. The papers have announced it for the 29th and 30th, but for local reasons the Society voted to hold it only one day, and those who are designing to attend should take notice and remember.

FERTILIZER LICENSES.

There are several manufacturers of fertilizers who have not yet complied with the law by procuring a license to make or sell in this State. Farmers should be on their guard against purchasing goods of parties who are trying to evade the law. They should see to it that the proper analysis is attached to the packages. All the law or the farmers ask of you, manufacturers, is to *state what you sell, and tell what you state*, and unless you are willing to do this, we shall have a just ground to distrust you.

RUST ON ONIONS.

Professor Thomas Taylor, Microscopist of the Agricultural Department, Washington, writes that in a recent experiment, made for the purpose of destroying fungus on the onion, the following mode has proved very successful:

Some specimens were obtained in the market covered with amber colored fungus. I inverted each of them in an inverted glass receiver, which I placed over a beaker filled with nitrous acid. The fumes arising from the acid without the application of heat enveloped the onion and soon dissolved and destroyed the fungus covering its surface. In order to ascertain whether the life of the plant had been destroyed, I placed it in a bulb glass filled with water. It sprouted in a few days and is now in healthy growth on my desk. It has numerous leaves, which have attained a length of six to twelve inches; thus showing conclusively that, in some cases, fungoid growths may be effectually destroyed without injury to the plants on which they grow.

This principle admits of many important applications. In some diseases of the potato the surface alone appears to be effected, and the same is true in regard to certain diseases affecting the tubers, roots, fruits and grains of various other plants, any of which may be readily exposed in acid. As nitrous acid has the power of depriving organic bodies of oxygen, its destructive action on fungus is probably due to this property. The extent to which this treatment may be safely applied to the smaller grains will be the subject of future experiment.

TRAPPING BEETLES AND MOTHS.—A barrel smeared with tar or other viscuous substance, having a lighted lamp inside properly protected and placed in the orchard or garden during the season of moths and millers, will trap and hold large quantities of those pests. We have thus caught large quantities in this way, particularly the moths of the family of *Agrotidians*, from the eggs of which cut worms are produced.

THE STOCK AT THE NEW ENGLAND FAIR.

After the excitement which naturally attends any important event or great gathering of the people has passed, and especially so of a gathering of farmers such as that at the late New England Fair in Rhode Island, it may be well to consider carefully the object and results of such meetings, and their relation to the real interests of the farmers of New England. Agassiz of all things prided himself most in being a teacher, and he was considered a most successful teacher, and his great success depended upon his method of bringing the student directly in contact with nature itself, in learning things rather than descriptions of things, of life itself rather than theories of life. Now may it not truly be said that the shows of the several Agricultural Societies are the true text books for the farmers to study? and above all, may it not be said that the New England Cattle Show is the proper text book for the advanced class of farmers to study with the best prospect of success that has yet been published, inasmuch as it brings together, for comparison, a greater number of superior animals of all the approved breeds, adapted to all the various situations and qualities of farms in the several States.

This is truly the school of the farmer. If he wants working oxen for heavy, slow work, let him carefully observe and study the Herefords, and Shorthorns there on exhibition, and their performances with the load; if he wants oxen for lighter, quicker work, such as ploughing or teaming on the road, there were the sprightly, active and beautiful Devons; if milch cows be the object of his study, the Ayrshire, the Dutch and Swiss breeds were perhaps better represented than ever before, giving ample opportunity to observe the peculiar points of the several breeds to well consider their adaptation to his pasture or his method of feeding for the production of milk. If butter making is his specialty, there were the Jersey or Alderney breed, represented by a large number of the finest specimens that perhaps have ever been offered for comparison.

It may be regretted by many farmers that the same premiums were not offered for Native or Grade cows that were for the several foreign breeds, that the same inducements were made to bring out the best specimens that a full study and comparison might be made with the foreign breeds, whose peculiarities that a second place premium would naturally suggest, for it is yet to be proved, that a good judge of cows cannot select a herd or an individual cow of native or grade stock, that will produce milk with equal or more profit than from any purely bred, and it is a noticeable fact with nearly every breeder of pure stock who makes the product of milk an object, keeps more or less of native or grade cows for the profit of their production, and it is to be hoped that the merits of judicious crossing should not be lost sight of.

Notwithstanding the character of the premiums offered for grade cows there were a large number of superior animals entered which added much to the real value of the exhibition.

It was remarked by a Scotch farmer on the grounds that as good or better Ayrshire stock could be found in America as in Scotland. The fact that England has sent to New York to purchase the best specimens of the best strain of Shorthorn blood, shows what care is given and what knowledge is attained in the art of breeding in this country, although comparatively a new study here. Is it not fair to presume that much of the success that has been attained is due to such and similar shows as was witnessed at Providence under the auspices of the New England Agricultural Society.

Questions & Answers.

SICK PLUM TREES.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

What can be done to preserve the life and promote the health of Damson plum trees? My trees are all young and to all appearance healthy, but they die after bearing one year. And now I have one loaded with fruit, which I fear will be an entire failure. I can discover no insect, but a diseased spot appears on the plum which exudes a gummy substance, and they soon fall off. Some recommend the heaping of old boots and shoes about the roots, but this seems to me a questionable remedy. Please answer through the *Ploughman*

Yours, R. H. D.

Lowell, Mass., Aug. 27, 1874.

The trouble with our plum trees surpasses our comprehension. Not knowing exactly what to advise, in the above case we applied to one of our most experienced and best horticulturists, but he was in the same predicament and could not give a satisfactory answer to the inquiry of R. H. D. Perhaps some of the readers of the *Ploughman* may have had the same or a similar difficulty and can give us the results of their treatment. If so will they please do so.—[ED.

WARTS ON COWS TEATS.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Can you or any of the readers of the *Ploughman* tell what will take warts off of a cow's teats that are becoming troublesome? The cow is valuable and young, and I hate to fat her. If the warts can be cured an early reply will oblige an old subscriber.

Respectfully, WM. A. CHILDS.

New Braintree, Aug. 9, 1874.

Warts on cows teats when irritated and become sore are troublesome to manage if the animal is giving milk. When dry, a thread of fine silk tied at the base will often remove them effectually. When in milk the irritation caused by milking arrests the healing process. We would recommend a trial of the following remedy: Muriate of ammonia, one ounce, water, eight ounces; mix, apply to the sore warts morning and night after milking.—[ED.

A NOVEL IDEA.—The Groton, Pepperell and Littleton Farmers' Clubs have made up a purse which is to be awarded to the club which makes the best exhibition this autumn. The Groton Club, Hon. Daniel Needham, President, will hold its exhibition September 23; the Pepperell, Col. S. P. Shattuck, President, will hold its exhibition October 7, and the Littleton, Col. J. A. Harwood, President, will hold its exhibition October 13.

Alpheus Swallow of Dunstable, John Johnson, Jr., of Framingham, and Charles L. Wilder of Lancaster, have been selected by the Presidents of the several clubs as the awarding committee.

THE RACES AT THE NEW ENGLAND FAIR.

The races at the Fair this year were not perhaps as attractive as in years past to those loving a good race, as the premiums offered for trials of speed were small, and consequently the owners of horses of fast records could not afford to enter them when there were much larger purses offered at the same time at the Mystic and other Parks of New England. It was the intention of the two Societies at the exhibition of this year not to make the horse trotting such an important a feature as to detract from other portions of the Fair, and this plan with these ideas in view, was admirably carried out. About one half the amount of money was spent for trotting as was devoted to this feature of the Fair of last year, and though the entries were small and containing no horses of much note, yet the people on two days filled the grand stand, and appeared to enjoy the trotting as much as if the horses had been better and the premiums larger. The races were admirably judged and there was less confusion on the track, than we ever saw before. We were quite pleased with the first race on the first day, given for horses trotting nearest to four minutes. It is not a difficult matter to drive a horse as fast as he can trot, but it seems to us that it requires a good deal of judgment and skill to sit in a wagon, with no watch to assist you, and to be able to so guage your horse, not only the first quarter, but through them all, till the wire is passed, and then to have the judges give the decision, as they did, that the winning horse was only one second slow. This was not a race in any form, but really a trial of speed, and the only one of the day. A race which was extemporized by the owners of the horses entered as above, gave an entertainment to the crowd by all starting at speed to see who had the better horse, but an accident to the wagon of the roan horse, "James Andrews," as they were in the home stretch, prevented the completion of the race and resulted in the breaking of an axle, the throwing out of the driver and the running away of the horse, but with no serious result, save the complete demolition of the wagon. The summary of this first race was

NARRAGANSETT PARK, PROVIDENCE, SEPT. 1.—Trial of speed for horses trotting nearest to four minutes, to road wagon. Wagon and driver to weigh not less than 300 pounds, for a premium of $150; $75 to first, $50 to second, $25 to third.

C. W. Richardson, ns. James Andrews	3 5 0
H. H. Healy, ns. Ed. Knox	4 0 1
W. W. Sheldon, ns. Norman	4 0 3
W. G. Sheldon, ns. Norman	4 0 2

The races for Wednesday were well attended, there being not less than ten thousand people in the Grand Stand, who were entertained between the heats by the fine music of the Pawtucket Band. In the first race Princess led in each heat, but Fearless closely followed her, and in the third heat came in only a very short distance behind. In the second race there was much trouble in starting. The jockeys determined to get off to suit themselves, and the drivers were fined, in accordance to the National Association rules, $10 each, for not scoring with Dandy. The drivers fined were those handling Belle of Hudson, Josephine, Whitford, Mambrino Maid and Wolfhunter—which taught these drivers a good lesson, as well as those in the remainder of the Trials of Speed. The result of the races was as follows:

SUMMARIES.

NEW ENGLAND FAIR, NARRAGANSETT PARK, SEPT. 2, 1874.—Purse of $200 for horses that have never trotted better than 2.50; $150, $50 and $25 to first, second and third horses, in harness.

P. W. Hudson, Norwalk, Conn., ns. b. m. Princess	1 1 1
J. S. Parkis, Providence, ns. b. g. Fearless	2 2 2
L. B. Brown, Providence, ns. br. g. Billy Stevens	3 3 3
John S. Parkis, Providence, ns. b. g. Wm. S. Briggs	4 4 4
W. J. Sheldon, Providence, ns. br. g. Vick	5 5 5

Time—2.39½; 2.43; 2.42½.

SAME DAY AND TRACK.—Purse of $200 for horses that have never trotted better than three minutes; $120, $50 and $25, mile heats, best 3 in 5, in harness.

H. B. Winship, Providence, ns. c. g. Jasper	1 1 1
John A. Reed, Providence, ns. g. m. Belle of Hudson	2 2 2
L. B. Brown, Providence, ns. c. g. Dandy	3 4 5
W. J. Sheldon, Providence, ns. c. g. Wolfhunter	4 3 3
John McLaughlin, Providence, ns. b. m. Mambrino Maid	6 6 6
John S. Parkis, Providence, ns. br. s. Harry Whitford	7 7 7
H. W. Babcock, Providence, ns. blk. m. Josephine	8 5 4
C. W. Richardson, Providence, ns. r. m. Jennie Andrews	5 8 8

Time—2.46½; 2.43½; 2.41½.

No entries for running horse on second day

During the time between the first two heats of the first race there was a very interesting show of three pairs of finely matched family horses, two pairs being shown by Mr. Charles E. Smith, and one by Mr. O. M. Draper, and all from North Attleboro'. There were seven entries in the list, the remaining ones being made by Phillips & Sheldon, Providence, A. & W. Sprague, Cranston, Barney Brown, Providence, William Sheldon, Providence, and Marshall H. Day.

The races for Thursday brought under the wire the 2.50 and 2.34 horses. There were six entries in the first, Princess, the mare winning in the 2.40 class of the day before, won this race in three straight heats. We give below a

SUMMARY.

NEW ENGLAND FAIR, Thursday, Sept. 3, 1874. Race of 2.50 horses for premium of $200; $125 to first, $50 to second, $25 to third; mile heats, best 3 in 5, to harness.

P. W. Hudson, Norwalk, Conn., ns. b. m. Princess	1 1 1
T. S. Foster, Providence, ns. br. m. Procter	2 2 2
J. S. Parkis, Providence, ns. b. s. Harry Whitford	3 3 3
W. G. Sheldon, Providence, ns. b. g. Quarryman	4 4 5
C. W. Richardson, Providence, ns. r. m. Jennie Andrews	5 5 4
A. B. Sprague, Oneco, Ct., ns. Providence Maid	dist.

Time—2.47; 2.47½; 2.53.

There was a good deal of pleasure in the well contested out 2.34 class; Gray Dick, owned in Providence, was the fortunate competitor. We give a summary.

SAME PLACE AND DAY. Race for 2.34 horses, for a premium of $500—$300 to first, $125 to second, $75 to third; mile heats, best 3 in 5, to harness.

W. La Rose, Providence, ns. g. g. Gray Dick	1 2 1 1
W. J. Sheldon, Prov., ns. b. g. Ira Brown	3 1 3 4
T. S. Carpenter, Providence, ns. ch. m. Lizzie Keeler	2 3 2 3
L. B. Brown, Prov., ns. br. g. Billy Simpson	4 4 4 4

Time—2.30½; 2.31; 2.27½; 2.30.

Quite promptly to the ringing of the bell came to the stand three horses in answer to the call for those in the 2.29 class. The horse Ben Smith failed to put in an appearance. The race was of an uninteresting nature, no good time being made, the same positions being kept throughout each heat. Below is a

SUMMARY.

NARRAGANSETT PARK, PROVIDENCE, R. I., Friday, Sept 4. Race for horses that have never trotted better than 2.29, for a purse of $600; $300 to first, $125 to second, 100 to third, $75 to fourth.

T. S. Carpenter, Providence, enters g. g. Billy Platter	1 1 1
James Carpenter, Providence, enters br. m. Maybe	2 2 2
D. H. Smith, Attleboro' Mass., enters b. m. Belle Brandon	3 3 3

Time—2.35; 2.36½; 2.36½.

The last race and one which immediately followed the above, was for horses never having trotted for money. Ten entries in all; four were drawn before starting. As in the 2.29 class, one horse had it all his own way, and the race throughout was void of any interest. Below is a summary:

NARRAGANSETT PARK, PROVIDENCE, Sept. 4. Race for gentlemen's driving horses, which have never been driven for money, for a purse of $175; $100 to first, $50 to second, $25 to third.

H. B. Winship, Providence, ns. c. g. Jasper	1 1 1
J. A. Boyd, Providence, ns. g. m. Belle of Hudson	3 2 2
W. A. French, Pawtucket, ns. c. g. Major	2 3 4
W. J. Sheldon, Providence, ns. c. g. Wolfhunter	6 4 3
L. B. Brown, Providence, ns. c. g. Dandy	5 4 dist
T. S Carpenter, Providence, ns. c. m. Ernestine	4 dist.

Time—2.40; 2.42½; 2.41½.

The judges in these races were taken from members of the Society, and showed, all of them, good knowledge of the rules of the Association. Mr. D. F. Longstreet, of Providence, late Secretary of the National Association, is entitled to a good deal of credit for his valuable assistance, aided as he was by Col. S. C. Oliver, of Salem, Mass., W. L. Boyd, of Mansfield, Mass. and Charles S. Smith, Attleboro', Mass.; Mr. John Dervan, of Boston, acting as the efficient clerk of the Course.

Correspondence.

A FRUITFUL SEASON.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Frequent and copious rains have made this a millennian season on the self-draining fields has been most pleasing, and, as Shakespeare has it, "The tender grass whose verdure clad her universal face with pleasant green," has held good through all the summer months as fresh and pleasant to the eye as in the lovely, leaf-expanding month of June. Not a day through all the season of brown fields. Blessed be the rain! How suggestive the beauty and the productiveness of this season is, of the manifold benefits of irrigation. The continuous moisture of the fields has developed many hidden forces of fertility, which, for years, perhaps, have been locked in the soil.

The members of the Boxford Farmers Club have been too busy with their field work to attend frequent meetings, even if such had been notified, but interviews with them have unfolded the fact, that while the general crops have been highly satisfactory, there have also been various experiments instituted, which will result doubtless, in adding to the local stock of knowledge, and show, perhaps, that there are some things about farming which no fellow can find out. Of some of these experiments, and processes, detailed statements will be made at the regular meetings of the club the approaching winter. The comparative value of manures, at least barnyard, or stable manure, has been sought by some rough experiments; as well, also, the preparation of manures and he time and manner of their application.

Several varieties of potatoes have been tested and some of the results are surprising, suggestive and indeed inspiring.

The cultivation of pears is increasing here and with so good success, that the opinion once so prevalent that choice pears could not be grown successfully in this region is entirely changed. A member of the club, a clergyman with pomological taste, and with pains-taking care, has led the way in this enterprise.

This is the apple year, and the quality is very fine, but the quantity will not be nearly as large as two years ago.

One of the hard experiences in this region, and so, indeed, generally, with farmers is this: the prices of farm products are much less than last year, and previously while almost all other articles of family use, are about as high as last year. But, after all, there is some satisfaction in the thought that low prices for the good things which farmers produce, are an essential benefit to the poor, and result in giving aid to all industrial enterprises. J. S. S.

Boxford, Sept. 5, 1874.

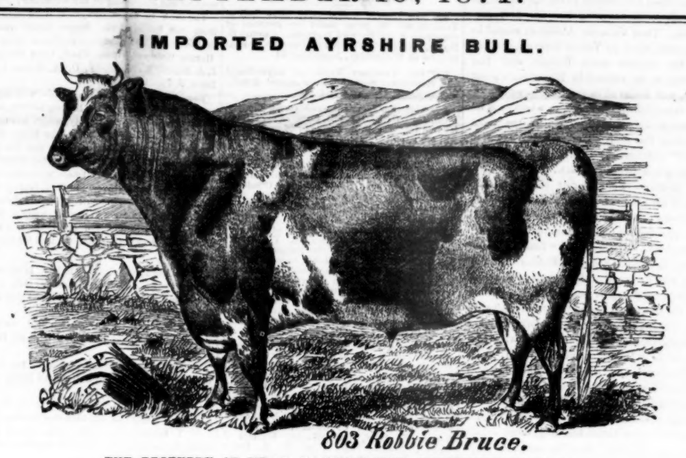
PROFIT OF SEVENTEEN SWARMS

J. P. Moore, Binghampton, N. Y., says:—"I commenced the season of 1873 with seventeen stocks of bees, having lost four in the spring and sold one. Ten were in fair condition by May 20; the other seven were much reduced, but by taking brood from strong ones, I was able to build up five of the weak ones by the time honey commenced to yield. The other two I run for increase and surplus queens, and was able by feeding and using my four hives of empty comb to increase the two or eight full stocks and five half stocks or nuclei. Two of the nuclei died in the winter, and the other three are very weak (I prefer full stocks for winter,) and raised ten surplus queens. The fifteen that the boxes were put on, were run entirely for box honey, without increase, as we have things so arranged now that when we get a hive filled with brood in time to put on boxes, we can have them put all their surplus in boxes, if the queen is prolific, without attempting to swarm, and without the trouble of handling the brood. The product of the fifteen stands thus: By returns from honey shipped, 1864 pounds, at an average of about 27 3-4 cents, $498.32; honey sold at home, 120 pounds at 17 cents, $19.20; honey reserved for home use, 60 pounds, $8.00. Total $525.25.—*Buffalo Live Stock Journal.*

☞ A horse belonging to John M. Howland, of Fairhaven, died a few days since, from the effect of eating wilted clover.

☞ Too much shade around a dwelling house is unhealthy.

IMPORTED AYRSHIRE BULL.



803 Robbie Bruce.

THE PROPERTY OF MR. J. R. STUYVESANT, POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y.

The Horse.

OVER-TRAINING.

The recent assertion that Kentuckians were injuring their young horses by training too early and too severely, brings out a long article by the experienced Kentucky horseman, Dr. L. Herr, from which we make the following extracts:

After many experiments in ascertaining what amount of handling young trotters will stand without injurious effects, and in testing their speed and endurance without high preparation, I am convinced that a weanling—broke to lead, but untrained—can show a half mile (led) at the rate of four minutes to the mile; a yearling can trot a mile in harness, without sweating or drawing, in three minutes; and a two-year-old, without high training, can trot in harness in 2:35, or better; a three-year-old can trot in harnest, without abusive training, in 2:24; and a five-year-old can trot in 2:20, or better. I have proven to my entire satisfaction that they can go to these distances at young ages, and do so by nature; and if they have not the capacity at young ages they will not have, and they will show the same difference, in proportion to their ages, as matured horses. I never injured one colt by early training while carrying out my investigations. I never forced the sweating process, nor put them over enough to evaporate their natural juices or secretions in sufficient supply to give them good heart and courage, and fresh at all times—never using blankets except they should perspire in their work in hot weather, and then only to cool them out, after which they are kept naked, fresh and unbaked.

The many breakdowns attributed to excessive and abusive training are more frequently the result of accident than overwork. Why is it a horse will have one complaining leg, while the others, doing the same amount of work, are as sound and clear as flutes? Does it not look reasonable that the complaining leg was started from some accidental cause or violence, while the other limbs escaped? I have known three horses to break their shoulder-blades and fore-arms at a slow gallop, and two of them on the Lexington track, when it was considered in good and safe condition. While Asteroid's leg was strained by accident, his constitutional stamina was, and is now, as good as ever, and also his leg clean and fine.

The Poultry Interest.

SELECTING BREEDING FOWLS.

Whoever wishes to reproduce animals of any breed or variety, should look carefully at his ideal and make judicious selections. It is a want of discernment or experience, or both, in making these selections which causes our valuable breeds of fowls to "run to sorts," as it must be admitted that they do. The trouble arises from a disregard of this law. Standards are neglected or wrongly understood, and numerous strains of blood make their appearance, and this strain or that strain is sought for, and this strain or that strain is paired or mated, and our splendid breeds become mixed and muddled, and are in fact injured in the hands of many. This may be seen in our boasted and worthy light Brahmas. One breeder says, "give us large frames;" another "that too much daylight can be seen under them." One says, "Neck hackle black, with a lacing of white around the edge of each feather;" another, "Neck hackle white, with a distinct black stripe down the centre of each feather." One breeds for feathers on the middle toes; another does not. One adheres to the true Brahma form; another attempts to imitate that of the Cochin. All of these are breeders and "advertise their wares." A cock is purchased from one and a hen from another. In the progeny we find three distinct "styles," and none of them satisfactory or truly "standard." There will be seen large checks, light necks, dark necks, and, on the whole, the purchaser is disappointed and dissatisfied and disgusted, and perhaps condemns fancy fowls and their breeders altogether, when, in fact, the cause is this law of nature, which is so well understood, yet so indifferently heeded, that like produces like.—*N. Y. Herald.*

BREAKING UP A SETTING HEN.—A friend of ours told us, says "A Rural Reader" in the *Canada Farmer*, the other day, how his wife cures hens of setting; and as it is a very novel way, we will repeat it for the benefit of others who are bothered with the invincrate old settlers. Picking up some splinters from the chip yard, (some four or five inches long,) she bound them firmly to the hen's legs, leaving only the hip joints in working order. Biddie was outwitted; like the old Dutchman's hen she would have to set standing up.

NEGLECTED CELLARS.

It is not probable that the amount of sickness bred in cellars can ever be accurately estimated, but there is no doubt that many mysterious cases of typhoid and scarlet fevers, rheumatism or ague, may be correctly traced to the malarious effluvia emanating from these neglected corners. Old boxes, bins, and barrels, which have contained vegetable matter, meat, fish, etc., need thorough overhauling, because when standing in a dark corner, they look empty, and there may be enough poison left sticking on the sides and bottom to affect the health of the household. The work of cleansing is often left to the women and boys of the family. A man had much better leave his work a day, to make a thorough examination and purification of the cellar, than to be unduly anxious about getting in his crops in extra season. After all garbage is carried out, let the ceilings and wall be faithfully brushed with an old broom; and if this is done once a month, the atmosphere will be all the sweeter. Use plenty of lime, and in dry weather keep the doors and windows open a part of every day. Old tin and wooden ware should not be allowed to stand year after year upon the cellar shelves. If it is not fit to be used throw it away.—*Manufacturer and Builder.*

Miscellaneous.

SAVING MANURE.

It is often remarked that those who farm near large cities must have great advantages over people at a distance, in the ease and cheapness with which they can obtain manure. We are not sure that this is so. We have seen many a country town where manure may be had nearly for the trouble of hauling, while the writer has had to purchase many a load for his land near Philadelphia at the rate of two dollars a horse. That is to say, four dollars for as much as two horses could haul away. Perhaps near these large cities we have a better idea of the value of manure than in many other places. We have learned that it costs no more for labor on rich land than on poor, and labor costs far more than manure—poor and dear even as labor generally is.

These remarks are introductory to the suggestion that it would pay many people to look more after saving manure than they do. Here we find it much to our interest. As a general rule we suffer no weeds to grow but it very often happens in the hurry of spring work that the weeds get tremendously ahead; and if we had a weed law, and malicious neighbors near us to prosecute under it, we suppose we should very often get hauled up before the court.

Again the season is somewhat wet, as the rain rot on the cultivator through some of our hoed crops, the weeds were in many instances a foot high; and the first time the harrow went through there was little more impression made on them apparently than if it had been dragged through a clover field. A couple of times, however, tells the story; and our practice in these cases is to have the heavy weeds dragged together, often times by hand raking, and hauled away to the compost heap. This we have done for some years, and believe it is a very profitable item in our experience.

Many are afraid of the seeds of the weeds; but the immense mass of vegetable matter we gather together soon ferments and heats, and most of the seeds are in this way destroyed. We suppose the labor of one man for three weeks is spent on this clearing up of weeds, at a cost of about thirty dollars; while the manurial value of the material collected in that time is at least one hundred dollars to us.

Not perhaps just in this way, but in similar ones, many people would find it to their interest to look well after waste vegetable matter, with regard to the manure. Sometimes it may seem that there is little if any profit for the labor expended, but there will seldom be any actual loss, while the gain very often would be great.—*Forney's Weekly Press.*

A PLEASANT CHAT ABOUT HAY.

A contributor to the Hartford *Courant* says: "In expending our little bay of hay—a twelve feet cube, or thereabouts—I find each horse load reminds me by its peculiar herbage of the part of the meadow it came from, and the circumstances of its gathering in the regular inverted sequence of the hay harvest. The loads that were perfectly cured give an account of themselves in a more aromatic sweetness. Those that were stored with a risky excess of moisture tell the tale in a volume of fine musty dust, especially in the middle of the mow. The heat there was undoubtedly near the scalding point; the hay shows a dull, brownish-green tint, and has become very dry and brittle. The sugary gums and dried juices belonging to hay in its best condition, and tending to preserve the weight and strength of its fibre, seem to have been quite consumed in the interior parts of some of the loads, so that the young ones in one stormy day, with a jumping frolic, may reduce a whole foddering to the lightest chaff. The outside is in better condition, showing that, if I had taken the precaution to provide one or several small air holes from the bottom upward, as by pulling up small pieces of joist while the hay was being filled in, this waste of the richer and more appetizing portions of the fodder might have been prevented.

"A partial remedy in the use of such hay is to sprinkle each foddering with water several hours before it is wanted—a pail of water, say for ten or twelve animals. If the hay is fine, whatever provender is fed may be mingled with it, layer by layer, adding more water from the nose of the water pot. This without a slop upon a clean barn floor, or making the mixture heavier than wilted grass. The water alone will settle the dust and develop anew whatever of fragrance and aromatic sweetness is retained—a pail of water is capable of yielding. The improvement is as obvious as that produced in stale bread by steaming or heating in an oven with a moist cloth. It is a similar dampening by the weather that makes rough and musty fodder thrown from the stack more acceptable to cattle sometimes than the best dry hay would be."

PENS FOR SWINE.

The New York *Herald* says: A few days since the writer called at a neighbor's residence, who had a beautiful Chester White sow with three pigs about six weeks old. She brought nine, but overlaid six of them. The live pigs were worth five dollars each. Hence there was a loss of thirty dollars simply because his foreman did not understand how to prepare a suitable bed for a breeding sow. A large quantity of straw had been allowed to accumulate in her sleeping apartment, so that she had formed a deep hollow about the size of her body. As the young pigs could not get out of such a place, when the dam was about to lie down, they were smothered. Our own practice with brood sows has always been to remove all the straw from a sow's bed at least a month prior to the birth of her brood, and spread a few bunches of cut straw on the floor for her to lie on. Young pigs will never become entangled in such a bed, neither will they get cornered so that the dam will overlay them. When pigs are worth five dollars each it will pay the proprietor to prepare a suitable bed for the sow. Long straw should never be spread in a brood sow's sleeping apartment, except when no pigs are expected.

NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

FARMERS' MEETINGS AT PROVIDENCE.

Addresses of Dr. Geo. B. Loring, ex-Gov. Hyde, J. H. Olcott, Esq., Jonathan F. Angell, Esq., and Major S. B. Phinney.

Phonographically Reported expressly for the *Ploughman*.

Thursday Evening, Sept. 3d.

[President Loring in the Chair.]

The subject presented for discussion at the meeting held under the auspices of the New England Agricultural Society, in the hall of the Rhode Island Society on Thursday evening was,

"MANURES AND THEIR APPLICATION."

Addr ss of President Loring.

The question of fertilisation is the first one that should occupy the attention of the farmer, and is becoming more and more important in every section of this country. There is no part of Massachusetts, for instance, of Rhode Island, or Connecticut, in which the use of manures in connection with the business of farming is not an imperative necessity. It is fast becaming so, —and I have no doubt the enormous heat in which they lay and were all ready under the application either of acids or alkalies to dissolve themselves. I found I could furnish myself with bone material at a very moderate cost. I applied it in the following manner: I took about twice the amount of bone material in barnyard manure, and about the same amount in sandy loam, mixed the three together and covered the entire heap with a mass of compact loam. The one heap that I made contained about a ton of this bone material. I had no experience of the ill effects of the hard droughts and severe frosts which we have experienced for the last ten years. It is a most remarkable fact that although in the well cultivated sections of New England during the past season the hay crop has been abundant in those lands in the sections to which I have alluded, we may say there has been no fertilization, but the farmer has depended upon the power of nature to restore herself year by year, the grass crop of this year with all the constant cropping, and the heavy injurious effects of the hard droughts and severe frosts which we have experienced for the last ten years. It is a most remarkable fact that although in the well cultivated sections of New England during the past season the hay crop has been abundant in those lands in the sections to which I have alluded, we may say there has been no fertilization, but the farmer has depended upon the power of nature to restore herself year by year, the grass crop of this year with all the constant cropping, and the heavy injurious

should rely mainly upon what was obtained from the barn. My difficulty is of the same kind that the President has spoken about, viz: short pastures I was in hopes he would tell me in what way I could reclaim them. I cannot plough them, they are too rough. Hence I take it as true with the great section of our State that we are increasing the amount of pasturage, improving the quality and raising the standard of our land. I think we are getting much more grass to the acre than ever. I think in that respect there is a constant improvement. We are mowing less and getting much larger crops; and the result is that, *doing as we do* in our section, with rough pastures, we cannot reclaim the grass lands and get the entire crop of hay.

Remarks of J. B. Olcott, Esq., of Manchester, Conn.

Last winter for the first time I heard a good deal about the spreading of fresh manure in the winter. I had always been bred in the notion that we ought to be very careful how we handled our fresh manure, that we ought to keep it as close as possible, plough it in, cover it in some way, and not expose it to the air. I had not much of it, I was a little choice of it. It was quite necessary for me to save what I had. But I think the tendency of men's minds is to think that they ought to plough in manure quite green and fresh, and I had seen very much of it done. I commenced in the early winter and carted out what I had—perhaps one hundred bushels that was not more than three or four weeks old. It was quite fresh (we kept it in the barn cellar trodden by pigs.) Five or six weeks later we ploughed in more and we kept on in that routine. It was on a meadow. We had occasion, if we spoke when the ground was entirely bare that winter, and there were drying winds. In looking at that meadow this spring I had supposed I should find certain strips where I had applied the manure, upon which I should never see much effect produced by it. I had marks, so that I could tell distinctly where each lot of manure was applied, and I also had a record of the dates on which each lot was spread, and the circumstances. There was a good deal of sand in this manure. I marked particularly one strip where the land had lain a fortnight without any covering whatever. It lay right alongside of a strip that was covered with snow the next day after the manure was applied to it. I could see no sign there of a difference in the growth of the grass. I could see no difference between that which had been exposed to those drying winds and that which had been immediately covered by the heavy snow that afterwards melted and washed and soaked the manure into the ground.

We have had a very wet season this year. I have been so much encouraged with the result of this experiment that I shall try it again.

THE CHAIRMAN. How did you apply your manure.

MR. OLCOTT. I spread the manure as a top-dressing.

THE CHAIRMAN. Would you manure your land in the fall or in the spring for the growing of corn and potatoes.

MR. OLCOTT. Those things I decide very much as governed by some particular reason that obtains at the time. There is always some question of convenience connected with the matter. I have no settled view about it. I think if I had just my choice about it, to raise a good crop of corn I would prefer to have my manure green and turn it under a furrow as you mentioned, with some of it put into the hill. The nature of my land is a hill top, with perhaps some loads of cobble stones to the acre.

Remarks of Jonathan F. Angell, Esq., of Providence.

I think, Mr. President, the times are coming when those deep deposits of muck upon our farms will be found to be invaluable. I would not purchase a farm unless there were a good deposit of muck upon it. But then very much depends upon the quality of that muck. If those deposits are formed from evergreen foliage, I should say, as Mr. Goff, of Pawtucket says, that they are not worth quite carting out, and our great vegetable grower out in Cranston said here last winter, in giving the results of his experience. The whole surface of his land is a poor, sandy soil. My experience, whether I am right or wrong, is, that where you find a sandy soil, formerly there was an evergreen growth of some kind; and deposits that result from foliage of that class I should think would be of very little use upon the land.

Mr. SCARBOROUGH who had taken the premium on corn at the Connecticut Fair, said that his doctrine was to plough the land in the fall, give it a light dressing of manure, plough the manure under, harrow it, and put on compost manure. It was an expensive method, but he always took the premium for his corn.

I should not advise, as the result of my experience the use of lime in combination with muck.

Remarks of Dr. Loring.

The Value of Muck and how to use it.

The question of the value of lime and muck has been brought up here. I have expressed an opinion of the value of muck. It stands on a level with every other natural product; and is to be considered in no other way. You tell me that you have applied muck upon a piece of land and got herdsgrass upon it as high as your shoulders. I will tell you of farmer after farmer who has applied sand to a clayey soil and got herdsgrasses higher than his shoulders. There is no natural law in these matters. I recommended once that farmers should study the business of mixing their soils. I was satisfied that the effect would be good, and that the fertilizing of the land by the mixing of the soils was totally misunderstood. If you will find out exactly what are the right materials, and mix them well, you will derive great advantage from this method.

Horace Greely once undertook to take me to task upon my general views about the use of sandy gravel; when I told him that I would bring it. I set some teams to work hauling out the muck and spreading it upon the adjoining sandy lands, and herdsgrass grew upon them as high as my shoulders." I said "that may all be true; but that is not what is called 'muck fertilization.'" The business of using muck has been understood to be the hauling of load after load of muck into the barn cellars, getting such manure as you could and dropping it on it and there leaving it until it was hauled out again in the spring. Your experience, Mr. Greely, and the facts you would deduce from it reminds me of the story of the physician who had but one patient and was bound to make the most of him, and had one student and was bound to enlighten him. He took the student to see the patient every morning, and kept the patient alone just as he was, for the benefit of science. One morning when he was making his visitations, his manner became serious; he shook his head, looked very grave, gazed out of the window and up to the ceiling until the student was overwhelmed at the wisdom which seemed to be concentrated in him. When this process had gone on for a while he said "that man is very sick. He is going to die. He has been eating oysters." "How you have found out such a fact as that" said the student. When they were alone by themselves the physician told him the secret. He said "I know it because I saw the oyster shells under the bed." The student, anxious to copy faithfully the methods of so wise an instructor, in making his visit to a patient, after putting on the same looks of gravity and seriousness said, "That man is very sick. He is going to die. He has been eating a horse." "How do you ascertain that" said the astonished student. "Because, said the student I saw the saddle and bridle under the bed." That is just the process of reasoning by which Mr. Greely made out that muck was a good fertilizer for land in general. That is no way in which to make deductions, to pick up one single case and build upon it a rule for all cases.

Now I have tried lime and muck combined for the purpose of growing a crop. I had six inches of muck in one corner of a large field of good, fair loamy land, with a little sand intermixed, and I thought if I hauled out that muck and composted it with lime and spread it upon the land I should get a good crop. I had an enormous growth of corn stalks, and I thought I was going to have a tremendous crop of corn; but I found I had given the soil every element except that which was needed to make the stalks produce grain, and I did not get twenty bushels of corn to the acre; while I had so much corn fodder that I did not know what to do with it.

Muck may be useful when applied upon the proper kinds of soil. I cannot agree with Mr. Angell when he says that it depends upon what the muck is made of what its value is as a fertilizer. I must ask him to agree with me, that it depends upon the material with which it is combined and the soil upon which it is applied. I must also ask him to remember that until within the last twenty years our fathers were in the habit of using the sods upon the road sides to put upon their compost heaps, instead of muck. I think we should not consider muck as a fertilizer in itself, but rather consider it as one of those natural products which may be used in the manufacture of fertilizers when judiciously applied. I think we are apt to be misled upon such questions; and because we have in certain hollows between the hills, or along the edges of certain streams, decayed vegetable matter which looks rich because it is black in color, don't let us be deceived into the idea that therefore it is a fertilizer. I think we have had a little too much of that misconception heretofore. I hope the use of muck when it is applied hereafter will be judicious and discriminating.

I say, "never plough in the manure in the fall." It should be ploughed in in the spring of the year, and in such manner that the roots of the plant may find their way to it most readily.

Use of Ashes.

I think ashes as a fertilizer should be always applied to the surface of the soil. I know of no benefit to be derived from ashes by burying them or compounding them with good manure. They are a kind of manure that must combination with nothing. Ashes are about as well composted already as they can be. When you begin to use them, the best way is to apply them to the surface of the soil. For vines the ashes should be spread upon the surface of the hill.

I have been more than usually gratified at the attendance at these meetings, and by the interest which has attended these discussions. I think the meetings have a good tendency, and have increased in interest since we began our exhibitions. Those present must have witnessed the increased desire for information on the part of numbers present, which they have produced.

Remarks of S. B. Phinney, Esq., of Barnstable, Mass.

These meetings have always been interesting in connection with agricultural Fairs, and especially with the Fairs of the New England Society. As we are now about to bring this series to a close, permit me to move—

That the thanks of this meeting be tendered to the President of this Society, for the able, faithful and zealous efforts, which he has put forth, from the first inauguration of the New England Agricultural Society, down to the present time.

And in connection with that motion, it would be but just to say that this Society in having Dr. Loring for its President, has always had the right man in the right place. And as it was said of a very efficient and successful General in our army, he has always known where to put his finger upon the right man for the right place. He has known always how to make a success of the meetings of the New England Agricultural Society. He has gone into every one of the New England States, and there rallied about him the very men who were needed to make these meetings a success.

The motion of Mr. Phinney was unanimously adopted. [Adjourned.]

—A Kentucky man's will recently passed the probate process, though it was written on a paper shirt collar.

The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, SEPT. 19, 1874.

The Future Boston.—What Boston is, does not imply what Boston shall be in the future. The opening of the Hoosac Tunnel is a new revelation for her resources. Although New England, of which Boston is the commercial capitol, does not possess the rich gifts so lavishly bestowed on the rest of the continent, yet she possesses a front on the Atlantic ocean, for which the interior would be glad to give the half of its wealth. With agricultural resources, also, it is water power and water front that are the foundations of her fortune. And Boston is at present engaged in perfecting plans, and carrying them out, for establishing docks, railway connections around the wharves, floating and stationary elevators, and other facilities for handling the products of the interior at the lowest cost, that are certain to make her permanent fortune in the future. As surely as there is a West, the coast must be a servant to minister to its wants. Every interior requires an outside to give real value. New York already begins to speak seriously of what Boston is doing towards the perfection of her system of transportation.

Smuggler's Trotting.—The greatest stallion square trotting that was ever witnessed in this country occurred at Mystic Park last Tuesday afternoon, and a multitude numbering more than thirty thousand people were attracted to the spectacle. Col. Russell's Kansas-bred horse Smuggler won in three straight heats, six horses in all running. This now famous horse, who made the fastest mile for a stallion on record, is owned in Milton, Mass., but five miles out of Boston, and was purchased by his present owner to replace old Fearnaught who had sickened and suddenly died. He stands at the head of the list for stallion time, and of course his owner's fortune is made as well as the fame of the horse. The excitement at the Park was unusual, with the victorious horse came round on the home stretch of his third mile, without a break, head down, and moving with tremendous speed like a perfect piece of machinery. The amount of money that changed hands on the result was something wonderful.

The Mechanics Fair.—This Fair, called the Mechanics Exhibition and Art Exposition, opened under the most flattering auspices on Wednesday, in Faneuil and Quincy Halls, the two being united by a substantial and roomy building which compels street passengers to go through a sort of tunnel underneath. The department of machinery is all but bewildering for its variety, some 1500 applications for space having been necessarily refused. On the south side of Quincy Hall a canvas structure has been erected, seventy-two feet in length, for the display of articles of application to marine pursuits, life boats, and such. Every New England State, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Chicago, are represented. On the walls of the art gallery are hung some four hundred choice oil paintings, besides water colors, crayons, and others in that department. The general display is of the most profuse and imposing character. The Society does not desire to make money by their Fair, but to advance the interests of human skill and invention.

Mass. Horticultural Fair.—The Massachusetts Horticultural Society gave its 46th Annual Exhibition this week, beginning on Tuesday, at Horticultural and Music Halls, in this city. The show has been every day an unexampled one in the Society's annals, for its variety, richness, and brilliancy. The character of the great mass of contributions likewise testifies to a positive advance on the past achievements of this widely popular association. The veterans in the delightful avocation of horticulture were present, lending the contagious influence of their smiles and conversation and receiving the congratulations of the charmed multitudes. The coming and going of the people during the continuance of the Fair was incessant, demonstrating the strong hold the Society has upon this large community and upon the people of the State. Music Hall was devoted by the Society to the display of plants and flowers, while Horticultural Hall was occupied with fruits and vegetables. The Germania Band was in daily attendance, making the whole scene, aided by the influence of sweetest strains of music, one almost of fairy Land. The Society is to be congratulated on its success.

Written expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman.

SOME OF THE HORSES AT THE NEW ENGLAND FAIR.

The great New England Fair is over for this year, and with success, too, both as to the lovely weather, the excellence and the number of the stock of various kinds exhibited, and also in a pecuniary point of view These holidays of our New England farmers are looked upon with more than usual interest as each year and each exhibition comes upon us, and we even now hear from many lips, where will you hold the next Fair? The entries of the cattle were not only very large, but the excellence of the stock was remarkable. Being upon the horse committee, our attention was more particularly drawn in this direction, and from the celebrated "Mambrino Thatcher," to whom was awarded the gold medal of the Society for this year, to "Douglass," "Daybreak," "Creole," and "Heednaught," the yearling colt, all were fine enough to satisfy any one. That fine sire of old Fearnaught, Dreadnaught, was there in all his glory, and though always noticeable, he never before looked so well, and his behavior and his appearance went far towards giving him the first premium in his class, for he well deserved it, and the blue ribbon which he has carried home does no discredit to the opinion of the committee in awarding him the first premium. Then Vermont Abdallah, second in this class, sired by Young America, and out of the famous mare, Blonde, and fast enough to be entered in Blanchard's great race, was followed in the third premium by the famous Lambert Chief, to whom it is no injury to his reputation, to give the third premium this year. The splendid "four in hand" exhibited by Charles E. Smith, Esq., of North Attleboro', Mass., deserves especial mention. Four finer or closer matched horses cannot be found in the stable of any gentleman in New England. Mr. Smith was awarded the blue ribbon for "matched," "gentlemen's driving" and "family horses."

W. T. Cook, Esq., of Foxboro', Mass., may well be proud of the awards of the committees, receiving as he did the blue ribbon for the fine brood mare "Kitty Clyde," with the "Smuggler" colt ("Norfolk") by her side, and then of the thoroughbreds with such horses as "Harie" owned by W. T. Cook of Foxboro', and who lacks only 1-4 of a second of running the fastest 1 1-2 mile in America, "Hampton Court" and "Brigadier." taking premiums as they now read. Could purer blood or better breeding, more excellence in shape and form be produced anywhere? In the "Eight year old class" came "Young America," first, that famous sire of so many trotters, with "Rhode Island" second. Is it to be wondered at that, as lovers of horses, we were well paid for our trip to Providence, notwithstanding our labors were hard. It would take more time than we can now afford to describe all the horses present, whose blood and whose excellence would compare most favorably with any exhibition of this kind ever held. The character of the judges in the races, with D. F. Longstreet, Esq., late Secretary of the National Association at their head, was such from their knowledge of trotting rules and their own respectability, as to set aside even a thought of anything but justice being done, not only to the drivers but to the interests of the Society and of the National Association, and it will be found useless hereafter, when material for such labors can be found among our own members, to employ professionals. The rules of the Society have been this year so perfect that ordinary stock was entirely weeded out, and the show from its commencement to its close was one of which every member of the New England Agricultural Society may well be proud.

ONE OF THE JUDGES.

AWARDS AT THE NEW ENGLAND FAIR.

Supplementary Report.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ARCHITECTURE.

The only design presented for the premiums offered by the Societies, was one by Frank W. Angell, of Providence, for a house not to cost over three thousand dollars. The Committee have examined the design and award to Mr. Angell the premium of $30, deeming the design very meritorious. JAMES C. BUCKLIN,

For the Committee.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BINDING, PRINTING, &c.

Your Committee on Printing, Engraving, Lithographing and Penmanship respectfully report that the specimens in these lines are unusually good, and we award, after careful deliberation, as follows:

For best book printing, a bronze medal to E. L. Freeman & Co., of Central Falls, R. I.

For best ornamental printing, a bronze medal, to E. L. Freeman & Co., of Central Falls, R. I.

For best card printing, a bronze medal to R. I. Printing Co., Providence, R. I.

For best card engraving, a bronze medal to Bagbee & Hall, of Providence, R. I.

For best lithographing, a bronze medal to E. L. Freeman & Co., Central Falls, R. I.

For best wood engraving, a bronze medal to George B. Merrill, Providence.

For best penmanship, a bronze medal to Fielding Schofield, of Messrs. Bryant & Stratton's Business College, Providence.

The Committee also recommend a diploma to Master Walter E. Bongartz, 12 years of age, for card and other printing.

FRED. A. FRARY,
THOMAS W. BICKNELL,
GEO. O. WILLARD, } Committee.

AGRICULTURAL FAIRS.

☞ The seventh annual cattle show ball at Taunton will be given under the auspices of companies F and G, third regiment. Samuel B. Noyes, Esq., of Canton is to deliver the annual address on Wednesday, September 30.

☞ The Worcester Northwest Agricultural and Mechanical Society has its annual exhibition at Athol, October 6 and 7.

☞ Governor Ingersoll, ex-Governor English, Postmaster General Jewell, Congressman Hawley and Dr. George B. Loring of Massachusetts will probably be present at the opening of the State Fair in Hartford on the 22d.

☞ The farmers' clubs in various towns are preparing for "cattle shows" to be held during the present season. Stow has one October 2, Leominster September 25, and Bolton, Boxborough and Littleton will also have exhibitions during the month.

☞ The new agricultural society of Brockton will hold its first Fair October 7-9. This society was first formed July 9, the present year. It has a capital stock of $10,000 subscribed, and nearly all paid in. For this Fair the committee offers $5000 in premium money. It has a half mile track which is said by judges to be the best in the State. The programme for this fall's Fair will consist of a fireman's muster, base ball, and some of the best horses in the country are expected to trot.

☞ The fall exhibition of the Newton Horticultural Society will take place at the City Hall, West Newton, September 22 and 23, and will close with a festival on the 24th. Premiums will be awarded for vegetables, fruits and flowers. The committees appointed to award prizes are as follows: Vegetables, John Ward, Henry Breck, Horace Bacon; pears, Charles N. Brackett, J. F. C. Hyde, John C. Chamberlain; fruits, George E. Allen, Isaac Hagar, William J. Towne; flowers, Stiles Frost, H. M. Bates, William Edgar; on music, Milo Lucas.

☞ John L. Shorey, Esq., Publisher of *The Nursery*, will deliver the annual address at the Essex County Fair at Danvers, Sept. 30th inst.

THE HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITON.

Fine Display in Horticultural and Music Halls.

The forty-sixth annual exhibition of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society was opened to the public in Music and Horticultural Halls about 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. During the forenoon the committees were busily occupied in the arrangement of the choice products of the orchard, the garden and the conservatory and rendering both halls attractive to the throngs of visitors that came from the city and the country in the next few days. The display of fruits and vegetables was confined to the upper and lower Horticultural Halls and was one of the finest that has ever been made by the society.

The upper hall was entirely devoted to fruits. Two long tables on the right hand side of the hall were devoted to the different varieties of pears, several individual exhibitors presenting an extensive assortment of luscious fruits. The two corresponding tables which extended the entire length of the hall on the left were devoted to the display of apples, which was remarkable for its size, variety and beauty. The two circular tables in the centre of the hall were devoted to the choice varieties of grapes, mainly grown in conservatories. The place of honor on the platform had been given to the peach, only some of which, however, were in the specimens. The finest plates on exhibition were the Hale's Crawford varietiy, one splendid dozen having grown on the premises of Jonathan Preston, the architect, on Boylston Street, Boston, and another coming from Alexander Dickinson, Cambridgeport. The plate which attracted the most attention, however, and which undoubtedly contained twelve of the finest peaches ever seen in this city, was from the greenhouse of H. H. Hunnewell, Wellesley. The variety was the Late Crawford, and their size and beautiful tints called forth expressions of admiration from the lovers of fine fruits. The display of pears was hardly so large as last year, Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, the veteran pomologist, Hovey & Co., of Cambridge, William R. Austin of Dorchester, C. M. Chamberlain of Arlington, Alexander Dickinson of Cambridgeport, Joseph H. Fenno of Revere, and John L. Bird of Ward 16, each exhibit twenty varieties; Charles A. Bird of Revere, William A. Crafts of Brookline, John L. DeWolf of Boston, and J. C. Park of Somerville, each displayed fifteen varieties; Jesse Haley of Cambridgeport, Warren Heustis of Belmont, William T. Hall of Revere, William S. Janvrin of Revere, two varieties each; and a large number of other exhibitors had from a single plate to five varieties.

The largest exhibitor of grapes was John B. Moore of Concord, who had some fifteen splendid plates of different varieties. Mrs. T. W. Ward of Canton sent some of the finest specimens that were on exhibition, and E. W. Wood of West Newton, C. E. Brant of Boston, Horace Partridge of Somerville, E. S. Rand, Jr., of Glen Ridge, F. L. Ames of North Easton, Benjamin G. Smith of Cambridge, C. D. Kingman of Middleboro', C. S. Holbrook of Holbrook, Charles Garfield of Medford, William C. Strong of Brighton, and B. B. Davis of Brookline were among the other exhibitors. E. W. Bull of Concord displayed twelve varieties of new seedling grapes, some of which seem to give good promise of cultivation.

The assortment of apples was of good size and quality. The exhibitors of twenty varieties each were C. C. Shaw of Milford, W. H. Hovey & Co., of Cambridge, Joseph H. Fenno of Revere, and Asa Clement of Dracut, James Eustis of Wakefield, Samuel Hartwell of Lincoln, Amos Bates of Hingham, and Joseph Newhall of Lynnfield had fifteen varieties each and Edward Sumner of West Dedham, William T. Hall of Revere and Benjamin G. Smith of Cambridge showed each ten varieties. There were a very few plums, a few plates of pears which and any new varieties which attracted general attention.

In the lower hall the display of vegetables promised to be one of unusual excellence, and most of the prominent horticulturists within a radius of thirty miles of Boston were represented. The platform at the head of the hall was hidden by a brilliant bank of cut gladioli, and the mammoth products of the vegetable garden were arranged upon long tables which extended the length of the hall. Among the principal exhibitors were George Hall and John Fillebrown of Arlington; A. Hatch, Cliftondale; Samuel Pratt, Chelsea; Josiah Crosby, Arlington; J. J. H. Gregory, Marblehead; Atherton T. Brown, Walnut Hill Farm, Brookline; Mrs. Mary T. Goddard, Newton; Hovey & Co., Walter Russell, Arlington; N. F. Bruce, Stoneham; S. A. Merrill, Danvers, and Charles Garfield, Medford.

The most attractive spot for the ladies was the display in Music Hall, which had been transformed into a conservatory of the most brilliant and fragrant flowers and the choicest plants of variegated foliage and curious growth. The richest conservatories furnished specimens of their most valued attractions, and exotic evergreens, tall, graceful ferns mingled with the light hues of the flowers in the formation of a scene, attractive by day, but doubly so in the evening, with the addition of brilliant gas jets and the sweet music of the Germanias. A fountain had been placed in the centre of the hall, and a fine collection of cut flowers bordered the platform, while hanging baskets, parlor, hand and large bouquets, cut and basket flowers and floral designs were arranged upon tables in the front balcony. The collection of native evergreens and exotic plants of variegated foliage was one of rare interest and beauty, and good taste had been displayed in the general arrangement of the hall. Hovey & Co., H. H. Hunnewell of Wellesley, James Crowley of Lexington were among the largest contributors. The society offered $2550 in prizes for the exhibition, appropriated as follows: Fruits, $150; flowers and plants, $700; vegetables, $450.—*Journal.*

—From forty to fifty thousand persons were present at the opening of the great stallion trot, at Mystic Park, on Tuesday afternoon.

—The Universalist General Convention has been in session this week in New York.

READ AND RUN.

—The price of wine is rising in France, which is considered an unfavorable symptom for that country.

—A new order, called the Blues and Grays, has been instituted at Vicksburg, for the purpose of promoting the fraternization of the two sections of the Union.

—A man of education and culture committed suicide in the New York Tombs, who claimed to be a son of the German musical composer, Mendelssohn. He had just got a sentence to Sing Sing of five years for forgery.

—The National Convention of Congregational churches will meet at New Haven on the 30th instant, when Rev. Dr. Storrs, of Brooklyn, will preach the sermon.

—A run was recently made on the railroad from Clinton, Iowa, to Chicago, a distance of 138 miles, in two hours and thirty-th ree minutes the fastest time ever made by rail.

—It is reported that mail trains exclusively will be run between our large cities, to take precedence of passenger and freight trains on the roads.

—They are saying something about a man who has recently died in India, at the great age of one hundred and thirty-eight years. He was a banker.

—Spain is about to send eight thousand more troops to Cuba.

—Gen. Miles says the strength of the hostile Indians has been greatly underrated.

—The vacant position of Minister to Russia is besieged with a number of eager applicants.

—A strike among the operatives in Lancashire, England, stops the labor of 13,000 persons at once.

—Prof. Tyndall's address is about to be discussed on all sides with great fervor.

—Within a radius of forty miles of Springfield, in Massachusetts, four-fifths of all the writing paper used in this country is manufactured.

—The poet Bryant, now four score years of age, attended a town meeting in Cummington, Mass., last Saturday, and offered himself to defray the expense of a new road to West Cummington. The meeting, no doubt gratefully, accepted the offer.

—Long Island, in Boston Harbor, is to be cut up into building lots and sold at auction. Private residences there would be delightful.

—Certain New York journals insist that their State and City have nothing to fear from the Hoosac Tunnel. That depends somewhat upon the way it is put to service for freight transportation.

—Egyptian cotton which was sent to this country for distribution a few years ago, by Consul General Hall, proves greatly inferior to the American varieties in our southern climate.

—The alluvium brought down the Mississippi during the last spring's overflow will, is is calculated, insure immensely increased sugar and cotton crops for next year.

—The advance of wheat in the Liverpool market is an important fact at the present time.

—Whipple, an old and well known Boston photographer, has retired from business.

—A New York Spanish merchant has bequeathed three millions of dollars worth of property, located in that city, to residents in Spain.

—The Massachusetts Horticultural Society distributed $2550 in prizes at its annual Fair held during the present week.

—Curls are coming into fashion again for ladies, at ten dollars the curl.

—A. T. Stewart is to build a grand hotel in Philadelphia.

—Guizot, the French statesman, historian and philosopher, is dead, at the venerable age of eighty-seven years.

—This is the great stallion trotting week at Mystic Park, and crowds of people from all parts of the country are drawn together to witness it.

—Stewart, the great dry-goods dealer of New York, has made the heaviest purchases abroad this year that he has made during his long business career. He bought low, because for cash.

—The Massachusetts Horticultural Society has been giving its annual exhibition in Boston during the present week, and the show is a memorable one.

—Drouth may usually be depended on to follow a wet season. What was given in August is taken back in September.

—The exceptionally fine weather enjoyed at Narragansett Park only goes to show how accurate the calculations are of a pleasant first week in September.

—The now famous Salisbury Beach gathering took place on Thursday, at which many persons were present.

—The burglar fraternity are growing decidedly bold, in and near Boston.

—Gov. Dix, of New York, was recently poisoned quite severely with wild ivy.

—The Sportmen's Convention held at Niagara Falls had for its object the protection of game and fish over all the States and Territories.

—The "Art of Conducting" is professionally taught in this city, but it will be of no use for railroad men to go to that kind of school.

—The French watering places are all absorbed with croquet, the hotel bells ringing in vain for the boarders.

—St. John's Episcopal Church, in Gloucester, was consecrated on Monday. It could not be consecrated before, for the reason that it was in debt.

—David Barker, the Maine poet, was the author of "The Empty Sleeve," and was a lawyer.

—Portland shipped to foreign ports in the West Indies, during the month of August, the largest amount of lumber ever exported thence in a single month.

—The Grand Jury have indicted the Pomeroy boy for murder.

—In Bridgeport, Conn., they are manufacturing zinc gravestones and monuments.

—Francis Murphy's speech at the tem perance gathering of Old Orchard Beach was the great feature of the entire gathering.

—Yale University has erected one million of dollars worth of new buildings within the past ten years.

—The papers tell us of the recent death of the widow of the late President Van Buren, at Newport; but that can't be, for President Van Buren was himself a widower for the longer and last part of his life.

—The camp of the Third Brigade has been held at South Framingham this week.

—The trial of those charged with aiding in the escape of Marshal Bazaine is now going on in France.

—At Kittery, Maine, an extensive business is done in collecting and bleaching sea moss, which browers use for settling their ale.

—A New York lady observes that the *pound* is no place for a dog that belongs to the *ton*.

—An industrious moth worm is said to breed in the middle of an Havana cigar, which is given as the reason why they are so generally smoked out.

—The California vintage this year is put at 10,000,000 gallons, which is six millions more than that of last year.

—The velocipede is coming into favor again in Paris, and under an improved construction.

—The people of New Jersey are said to feel peculiarly lonely this year, on account of there being comparatively so few musquitoes.

—Bay horses are so generally found in the cavalry service, it is said, because cavalry officers are usually looking after the bays.

—Connecticut is being afflicted with a new form of the cattle disease.

—The Maine State Agricultural Fair next week at Lewiston, promises to be a fine exhibition of the progress of farming in that enterprising State.

—The drought makes the dust in and around New England towns all but unendurable.

—Stocks have enjoyed a little flurry of excitement in Wall street, during the week.

—Three or four years is found to be long enough in California to make the bark sufficiently thick on a cork tree for use.

—The treasurer of one manufacturing corporations in New England receives a salary of $50,000.

—The troubles over the State government in Louisiana have finally come to a head in an open conflict in the streets of New Orleans.

—There are but two free public bathing houses in New York, which have furnished opportunities for bathing to half a million persons since they were opened three months ago.

—Another somewhat interesting conflict of judicial authority has broken out in Utah, but what will come of it nobody as yet knows.

—When professional and business men talk about relinquishing active life and going into retirement, they simply confess to that weariness which is certain to overtake all persons who omit to take relaxation. Farmers never retire, but keep right along to the last, perhaps lightening their work as they grow older.

—Fifteen hundred persons are suffering from fever, owing to local malaria, in the town of Cold Spring, on the Hudson.

—The Mechanics Fair brought thousands to Boston to view its fresh opening attractions.

—The grasshopper at the West this year became a burden indeed.

—David Barker, a well known local poet of Maine, has recently died at the age of fifty.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

☞ *Homes and How to Make Them*, published by James R. Osgood & Co., Boston, is a beautiful printed book by E. C. Gardner, and consists of letters between an architect and his friend, relating to the building of homes. Its aim is to give practical information to those about to build, and to improve the popular taste in home architecture. It is tastefully illustrated and is really a valuable book.

☞ From the Leonard Scott Publishing Company, 41 Barclay street, New York, is issued the July number of the *London Quarterly Review*, containing a variety of valuable articles; The Isle of Wight; Primitive Man; The Countess of Nithsdale; English Society Verses; Motley's John of Barneveld and Sixteenth Century Diplomacy; The Labor Movement; Japan as it was and is; King Victor Amadeus of Savoy and Sardinia and the State of the Church.

☞ The *Westminster Review* for July from the same House, has a strong list of articles, Butler's Analogy, its Strength and Weakness; Emigration; Goethe and Mills, a contrast; The Admiralty and the Navy; Mr. Lewes and Metaphysics; The Emancipation of Women; Lamarck; The Nationalization of the Established Church; and many brief reviews and discussions of Contemporary Literature.

☞ The contents of *Blackwood's Magazine* for August, from the same house, are a series of travels commenced. The Abode of Snow, part of a description of a trip to the Himmalayas; The Story of Valentine and his Brother, continued; New Books; Alice Lorraine, continued; Seven Village Songs; The Civil War in America, by Count de Paris; Montaro's Flight; The Agricultural Strike. The four Reviews and Blackwood are republished at $15.00 a year.

☞ The *Aldine* for September, published by the Aldine Company, New York, is a number full of beauties, in which the best taste in selection and the highest artistic skill in execution are conspicuous on every page. The picture of Little Rose, the full page frontispiece by Bertrand, is most beautiful, and rich. Then there are gorgeous landscapes, The Storm in Utah and View of the Palisades, by Moran, and a fine view of Kingston, New York, by Van Elten. There are some gems of figure pieces, among which are A Bad Job, from Stammal, and the Women of Schorndorf, after Haberdin. All these beautiful engravings are printed on elegantly tinted paper, and the reading matter is choice, lively and instructive.

☞ The Maine Central Railroad Company are building a new depot at West Waterville; the frame is now up and partly boarded. The old depot building will be sold at public auction, and it is proposed to buy it for the Post Office.

THE NORFOLK SOCIETY.—The Twenty-sixth Annual Exhibition of the Norfolk County Agricultural Society will be held at Readville, on Thursday and Friday, the 24th and 25th of September, The annual address will be delivered by Hon. John Quincy Adams of Quincy, on the second day. The famous stallion *Smuggler* will be on the grounds during the exhibition.

VERMONT BUTTER.—Prices for butter at St. Albans on Tuesday were: Common to fair, 20 to 25c; medium to good, 27 to 28; choice, 30 to 32; selections 33 to 34.

SPECIAL NOTICES

CARPETS AT LOW PRICES,

One Dollar Superfines at 70 Cents.

We have just purchased of the Administrator the product of a factory of a late Philadelphia manufacturer, comprising 250 rolls all-wool Superfines, modern styles, dollar quality, which we shall sell for 70 cents. These are the cheapest carpets that have ever been offered in this market.

Also 200 rolls Tapestry Brussels at $1.10.

Also 150 rolls good Ingrains at 40 cents.

Also an invoice of Stair Carpets at three quarters' value.

Also 400 rolls Oil Cloth, from 30 cents up to the finest enamelled finish, for less than the cost of production.

NEW ENGLAND CARPET CO.,

Removed to 85 Hanover St., Boston.

sep19-1t

☞ $10 to $1000 invested in Stocks and Gold pays 200 per cent. a month. Send for particulars. Tumbridge & Co., Bankers, 2 Wall St., N. Y. sep19-13t

MEN ALWAYS ADMIRE

A pretty, well shod foot. By all means buy ENGLISH CHANNEL Rhoss. They wear longer and never have ragged soles. They cost no more. A dark line shows where the channel is cut around the sole. sep19-2t

☞ FREE to all applicants, my Nursery and Bulb Catalogues. F. K. PHŒNIX, Bloomington, Ill. au29-8t

WHITE'S SPECIALTY

For Dyspepsia.

This is the only prompt, efficient and safe matter such symptoms as loss of appetite, heartburn, palpitation of the heart, dizziness, sleeplessness, melancholy, nervousness, wind, mental and physical debility, as well as many others, which, if neglected, will soon place "*the Arnac we liver in*" beyond the reach of any remedy.

I had "Dyspepsia" twenty years, sometimes able to eat only the plainest food, and very little of that. I tried physicians and remedies without relief until I learned of "White's Specialty for Dyspepsia," which has cured me.

(Signed) **Mrs. B. L. WEST,**
Vineyard Haven, Mass., Oct. 15.

PRICE, ONE DOLLAR PER BOTTLE.

☞ FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

☞ Send for Descriptive Circular to the Proprietor, H. G. WHITE, Cambridgeport, Mass. sep26-16t

☞ NATURE'S FACE POWDER, OF ACME OF BEAUTY, is the only cosmetic warranted to be free from *Lead, Bismuth* and other poisons. Prepared in two colors, Tinted and Pure White. 50c a box. nov22-tf

CRESCENT MINERAL SOAP.

All good housekeepers use the Crescent Soap for cleaning house, knives, tin, copper, etc. It will leave a polish on paint different from any other Soap.

For sale by all grocers. aug15-4

MARRIAGES.

In this city, Sept. 14, by Rev. Sherwood Healey, Mr. Francis Hastings to Miss Mary C. Howe, daughter of the late George Hews, Esq.

Sept. 10, by Rev. George C. Lorimer, Mr. Willard A. Vose to Miss Emma B. Perley, both of Boston.

Sept. 10, by Rev. S. H. Winkley, Mr. John Remby, Jr., of Gloucester, to Miss Ellen M. Johnson of Manchester.

In Somerville, Sept. 15, by Rev. J. W. Hamilton of Boston, Mr. C. Edgar Kimbleton to Miss Ervie Hayward, both of Somerville.

In Springfield, Sept. 10, by Rev. E. A. Reed, assisted by Rev. Dr. Buckingham, Rev. Edward Strong, D. D., of Boston (West Roxbury), to Mrs. Harriet S. Wright of Springfield, formerly of New York.

In Amherst, Sept. 3, by Rev. Joshua B. Clark, Mr. Thomas B. Ferguson to Miss Ellen F. Riggs of Gloucester.

In Concord, N. H., Sept. 14, by Rev. James F. Clark, D. D., assisted by Rev. E. L. Conger, pastor, Joseph R. Lawson, of Boston, formerly of Leamington, England, to Georgia A., only daughter of General Walter Harriman, ex-Governor of New Hampshire.

In Providence, R. I., Sept. 9, by Rev. J. Mariner, Mr. James H. Luther to Miss Lydia L. Peck, both of Providence, R. I.; Sept. 8, by Rev. H. T. Arnold, Mr. Andrew J. Paul of Norwich, N. Y., to Miss Jennie S. Backus of Chaplin, Conn.

DEATHS,

In this city, Sept. 12, William Heywood, 29 years, son of the late William and Frances B. Heywood.

Sept. 12, James P. Hastings, 51 years.

Sept. 15, Mr. Jeremiah C. Elliott of Concord, N. H., 84 years 2 months.

In Dorchester, Sept. 15, Harriet B., wife of Michael Ambrose.

In Brookline, Sept. 14, Henriette d'Aubehert, 87 years.

In Natick, Mass., Sept. 14, Homer Hayes, 24 years 8 months.

In Swampscott, Sept. 15, James Hooton.

In Medfield, Mass., Sept. 14, Martin Bailey, 86 years 8 months.

In Malden, Sept. 12, Rev. Thomas J. Greenwood, 75 Sept. 14, Miss Maria Carter, 82 years 6 months

In Newton, Sept. 13, William Putnam, formerly of Cambridge, aged 71, 75 years.

In

Letter from Europe.

AGRICULTURE ABROAD.

Regional Agricultural Shows—Improved Implements—Growth and Development of Wheat—Plant Maladies—The Horse—Nitrogenised Manures—Rabbit Breeding—Forest Trees—Watering Cows during Milking—Rearing of Calves, etc., etc.

Special Foreign Correspondence of the Ploughman.

PARIS, Aug. 1874.

There is no part of the annual grant voted by the State for the improvement of agriculture that produces more immediate and practical benefits than that allocated to the holding of regional agricultural shows, and to withdraw such, or even to seriously reduce it, would be indeed regretable. Each show leaves salutary evidence of progress in those localities where it is held; stock becomes improved; implements are commanded, machinery installed, better seeds are sought after, and commercial manures purchased. When succeeding exhibitions come ound, fewer animals may be entered, because farmers are aware only those that are excellent can compete for the prizes, and later, when improvement has done its work, the lists will be fuller. The farmer's eyes at these shows become opened and educated, and as prejudices and routine can be only conquered, by travelling to view new processes or ameliorations, those who cannot undertake a voyage, benefit by the spectacle of realized progress at their doors. The farm laborer looks on also, and notes, and thinks, as well as the peasant farmer or the stay-at-home proprietor. It is not a long time ago since cattle were viewed by the French agriculturist, and indeed most live stock, as a necessary evil.

Improved Implements.

In the depths of Brittany improved implements are now the fashion, and since 1850 the flail then only employed, has become as antiquated as a threshing machine was at the time one of the marvels of the day. Also, very respectable local implement factories have sprung up, and while following in the wake of improvements, aim primarily in applying those improvements to the special wants of their district. The farmer too, having commenced by complaining of the necessity of expending ready money, ends by recognizing that what cash he loans to his lands for draining, manuring, deeper and finer tillage, etc., brings him good interest for his outlay

Growth and Development of Wheat.

Dr. Bidard relates his observations on the growth and development of wheat. Either a very low temperature, or a frost succeeding humidity can endanger winter wheat, by upheaving the soil and exposing the roots. At the close of February, when the leaves began to develop, he examined the stem, and found that it consisted of five tubes, one within the other like a telescope; a month later the rudimentary ear was visible; a month afterwards, the spikelets, and even the flower, were discernible. Many farmers in France graze stock on their winter wheat in early spring, and often complain that the practise is sometimes injurious, causing the plant to run only to leaf. May this not be owing to the grazing taking place at too late a period, and when the rudimentary ear has been formed? In June when the temperature increases, the floral organs develop rapidly, the stamina become yellow, the pistils white, and all enclosed between the tenderest of valves. A temperature of seventy-two degrees is necessary for the process of fecundation, which is effected in a moment; in the course of three minutes afterwards the valves of the spikelets open, reject the stamina, and then permanently reclose. When the fecundation, owing to a low temperature does not take place, the spikelet retains not the less its round form, but yields to the pressure of the finger; it is empty, hence, one of the causes of a deficient harvest. Before fecundation, non starch is perceptible in the embryo, but immediately after that operation, the iodine test reveals the presence of starch. Ten days suffice to shape when fecundation has taken place, the membrane of the grain, which ultimately forms bran, this membrane or case, rapidly becomes filled with a solution of starch, and requires a good deal of water to continue its work of development; should drought ensue, this membrane is not well filled, it is thin and shrivelled—hence, a second cause of a deficient harvest, to which a third may be added, the abortion of two or more grains at the base of the ear—the latter generally possessing from twenty-one to twenty-seven spikelets.

Plant Maladies.

Nearly all our cultivated plants seemed doomed to pass through a series of maladies. In their wild state they are not so affected, at least we do not perceive such. Is it that culture, greater well being in the conditions of their life, leaves them more exposed to enemies, that the more we care them the less they appear to depend on their own natural powers of resistance? The latest plant attacked with disease is clover; it secins where it was formerly robust, or dies off in being cut at the crown, while the top root remains healthy. This latter disease has been developed at the Grignon Agricultural College; the clover fades, blackens, and dies, not in patches so much as by numerous isolated plants, and curiously most markedly on the soil where wheat and potatoes had previously been cultivated. It is at the neck of the plant, a little above the surface of the soil, that the malady appears, resembling in the mark, as if it had been gnawed by a wire worm, but produced by a parasitic mushroom, which as it grows, alters the cells, and their contents. When a dead plant is placed in a moist position for a day or a night, it becomes covered with down—the same fungi that attacked it when living, and which is believed to be identical with that found on the leaves of a diseased potato plant.

The Supply of Horses.

The new law on military organization naturally affected the supply of horses in France, and the Assembly has been but consequent in voting funds to increase not only that supply, but the improvement of the breed. From January next the State will purchase every year two hundred stallions of good blood, to be disseminated over the country, and subjected to inspection. It has re-opened some of the closed breeding establishments, placing all under a special commission and the law, instead of the caprice of a minister. The army needs at present ninety, instead of seventy thousand horses in time of peace; in case of war, 250,000 would be required, the moiety on the moment.

Nitrogenized Manures.

Experiments are being undertaken to test the efficacy of highly nitrogenized manures as a means of combating the vine disease—phylloxera. Peruvian guano is the manure most in request, chiefly because hitherto it has not been employed. Apropos of guano, a French tribunal has ruled, that an authorized agent of Peruvian guano is quite right to refuse to sell the manure to persons whom he reasonably believes intend to reverd it in an adulterated form.

Rabbit Breeding.

Rabbit breeding has become in France an important source of remuneration, whether as a food supply, or for the wants of industry in connection with the skin. Then they eat so little, and prevent old crusts and vegetable refuse from going to waste. M. Eugene Gayot, to whom we are indebted for the leporide, has also been successful in his new variety of rabbit St. Pierre, distinguished by its fecundity, size, and precocity, as well as for the excellence of its flesh. M. Gayot, who is a celebrated zootechnist does not find the fecundity of his leporides diminishing, nor any sign of their returning to their original types. He has even succeeded in domesticating hares, by burying barrels for one-hal their height in the soil, forming circles of sand and surrounding each circle with a wire fencing. In the Eureet-Loir a gentleman has succeedep in stocking his grounds with the leporide, the offspring of the hare and the *wild* rabbit.

Forest Trees.

From the researches of Schulze, there is a certain relation between the richness of a soil in mineral matters and the trees it produces. In the case of pines and larch it has been found, that the poorer the soil in phosphoric acid, the more inferior will be the yield of timber. As a rule in general, the greater the quantity of potash and lime in a soil the more vigorous will be the trees. The removal of the leaves from forest oils is also a serious source of exhaustion. In, the sugar factories it is the practice to mix quick lime with the *debris* that comes from the pressing machines; the value of the compost has been found to be more commercially valuable, and of course for manuring purposes on which prices are based, by substituting gypsum for quick lime.

Watering Cows during Milking.

It has been observed that when calves suckle their mothers the latter experience a great desire to drink, although having drank a few minutes previously. Is it that she fears her offspring would be left without a supply of nourishment and takes precautions? It has also been remarked that whether milked in the field or in the shed, cows display a desire to drink, though having just drank. Experiments are promised as to watering cows only during the process of milking to ascertain if the practice affects the secretion of milk.

Rearing of Calves.

M. Lejeune, Director of the agricultural establishment of Gembloux, in Belgium, which is supported by the State, has confirmed his success in the roaring and fattening of calves on artificial milk, formed by the addition of wheaten flour, malt, and carbonate of potash to skimmed milk; wheaten flour must not be depended upon as a source of ailment with milk. In the Black Forest, Liebig has shown that such mixture increased the mortality of infants by 42 per cent. producing indigestions, etc. In the case of young stock, hay tea, eggs, bread, oil cake, etc., made up into a mash, are open to serious objections. At the Gembloux farm the milk is skimmed, and the cream made into butter as a rule. But many calves and young hogs reared, demanding artificial milk as a necessity. For three weeks the young calves receive eight quarts of pure milk daily; this quantity is then gradually diminished, and the artificial preparation proportionately succeeds. The artificial milk consists of 1½ ounces of wheaten flour, the same of powdered malt, and nearly two pennyweights of carbonate of soda, per quart of skimmed milk; the mixture is cooked by a jet of steam, keeping the mixture well stirred. Over an ordinary fire the cooking is troublesome, and burns. In summer the mass keeps fresh for twenty-four hours and ought to be given cold. The bicarbonate of potash prevents the acid reaction of the flour; besides, the potash is required for the blood, and carbonate of soda cannot replace it. The starch of the flour by the cooking is converted into sugar and dextrine, which, if transferred to the animal's stomach, would prove a very fatiguing operation. The artificial milk costs a fraction more than one sous per quart, while the unskimmed milk can be sold at three sous the quart.

Trees as Lightning Conductors.

M. Collodon has instituted several experiments on trees as lightning conductors, and finds that the poplar is the best, as it ever escapes, while the top of the oak, or the branches of the elm, generally suffer. In planting poplars therefore around a building, they may be considered as efficacious conductors of lightning, but it is necessary to connect the lower part of the trunk with a well or a moist soil, by means of a metal rod.

M. Deherain has shown, that the quantity of carbonic acid which plants exhale in obscurity, is in point of energy, and proportionate to their mass, equal to that of cold blooded animals.

The habit of giving brine to pigs in undue quantities has been found to cause their loss of sight and fatal constipation.

TROUBLES IN LOUISIANA.

The long standing political quarrel as to the legality of the Kellogg and McEnery government in the State of Louisiana came to an issue of arms early this week in the city of New Orleans. A mass meeting of citizens was called for the announced purpose of protesting against the seizure of arms which had been coming into the State for the White League. A committee was appointed who were instructed to call on Gov. Kellogg to abdicate, which he refused to do, and the people were advised to go home and return with their arms and ammunition to assist in carrying out any plans which might be organized for them in support of the White League. The militia and police were called out to disperse the mob, and in the melee which followed many citizens and soldiers were killed. The mob erected barricades, and turned out in such numbers as to overpower the government authorities. Gov. McEnery being absent, Lieut. Gov. Penn issued a proclamation announcing that as acting governor he had assumed the government of the State, and called on all citizens to support him. The military and police resorted to places of defence, but the State House, and all the State buildings, police stations, were the next day surrendered to the League, and the new government seemed completely in possession of the ship.

Gov. Kellogg at once called on the President, under the constitution for interference on the part of the United States, on the ground that an insurrection had arisen in the State, and the laws were obstructed, and the State authorities were powerless to resist the insurrection. The President on Tuesday issued a proclamation based on that appeal, calling on all disorderly persons and armed bodies to disperse within five days. The troops in the city were ordered to be held in readiness for action, and others were immediately forwarded from convenient points. Quiet was said to prevail in the city on Wednesday, after the outbreak.

This outbreak has caused much feeling at Washington and throughout the country, both in official and unofficial circles. The President acted with the utmost promptness, and in full accord with his official advisers, and he has manifested the strongest determination to assert the authority of the government to the fullest extent. His proclamation will be found below.

THE PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.

The President has just issued the following proclamation:

Whereas, It has been satisfactorily represented to me that turbulent and disorderly persons have combined together with force and arms to overthrow the State Government of Louisiana, and to resist the laws and constituted authorities of said State, and

Whereas, It is provided in the Constitution of the United States that the United States shall protect every State in this Union on application of the Legislature, or the Executive when the Legislature cannot be convened, against domestic violence, and

Whereas, It is provided in the laws of the United States that in all cases of insurrection in any State, or of obstruction to the laws thereof, it shall be lawful for the President of the United States on application of the Legislature of such State, or of the Executive when the Legislature cannot be convened, to call for the militia of any other State or States, or to employ such part of the land and naval forces as shall be judged necessary for the purpose of suppressing such insurrection or causing the laws to be duly executed, and

Whereas, The Legislature of said State is not now in session and cannot be convened in time to meet the present emergency, and the Executive of said State, under section 4 of article — of the Constitution of the United States, and the laws passed in pursuance thereof, has therefore made application to me for such part of the military force of the United States as may be necessary and adequate to protect such State and the citizens thereof against domestic violence and to enforce the due execution of the laws, and

Whereas, It is required that whenever it is necessary, in the judgment of the President, to use the military force for the purpose aforesaid he shall forthwith, by proclamation, command such insurgents to disperse and retire peaceably to their respective homes within a limited time; now therefore

I, U. S. Grant, do hereby make a proclamation and command said turbulent and disorderly persons to disperse and retire peacably to their respective abodes within five days from this date and hereafter submit themselves to the laws and constituted authorities of said State, and I invoke the aid and co-operation of all good citizens thereof to uphold the law and preserve the public peace.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington this 15th day of September, in the year of our Lord 1874, and of the independence of the United States the 98th.

(Signed) U. S. GRANT.

By the President.

(Signed) HAMILTON FISH, Secretary of State.

The Rawson Family.—A large and interesting gathering was held at Worcester September 16th, of the descendants of Edward Rawsen, who was secretary of the Massachusetts colony for a period of thirty-five years, and who died in 1793. His descendents include all the American Rawsons, and much interest has been taken by several members of the family, of late years, in collecting and preserving its records and relics. Most efficient among these has been Mr. Reuben Rawson Dodge of Sutton, who has accumulated a mass of information in regard to the family for use in the compilation of a genealogical record.

The reunion was spent in conversation, the rehearsal of family histories, &c. A plan was perfected by which it is expected that the publication of a Rawson memorial and genealogical register will be accomplished. Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:

President, George S. Rawson, Hudson; secretary and treasurer, E. B. Crane, Worcester; executive and publication committee, the president and secretary, and Dr. E. G. Rawson of New York, Liberty Rawson of Holliston, Miss Mary G. Leland of Fall River, Henry C. Rawson and N. S. Boutelle of Woonsocket, R. L. R. R. Dodge of Sutton, O. F. Rawson, E. Rawson and J. D. Rawson of Worcester, and Luther R. Marsh of New York.

AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS FOR 1874.

STATE, PROVINCIAL, &c.	
Stock Breeders' Association, Hartford, Conn.	Sep 25
American Institute, New York	Sept. 30-Nov. 14.
California, Sacramento	Sept. 21-16.
Cincinnati Industrial	Sept. 2-Oct. 3.
Colorado, Denver	Sept. 23-26.
Georgia, Atlanta	Oct —
Illinois, Peoria	Sept. 14-18.
Indiana, Indianapolis	Sept. 7-Oct. 7.
Iowa, Keokuk	Sept. 21-26
Maine, Lewiston	Sept. 22-26.
Maine Pomological, Portland	Sept. 24-25.
New Hampshire, Manchester	Sept. 29-Oct. 2.
POULTRY SHOWS.	
Bucks County, Pa., Doylestown	Dec. 8-11
Central New York, Utica	Jan. 6-13
Connecticut, Hartford	Dec. 15-18
Eastern Pennsylvania, Doylestown	Dec 8-11
Illinois, Peoria	Sept. 14-19
Iowa, Dubuque	Dec. 15-18
Lehigh Valley, Pa	Jan. 1-8
Maine, Portland	Jan. 13-15
Maryland, Baltimore	Jan. 1-8
Massachusetts, Boston	Jan. 27-Feb. 4
New England, Worcester, Mass	Dec. 1-4
Western New York, Buffalo	Feb. 10-17
County and Town.	
MAINE.	
Aroostock, Houlton	Sept. 24-25
Cumberland, North Windham	Sep 30-Oct 2
Franklin, Farmington	Sep 30-Oct 1
Franklin, North, Phillips	Oct 7-8
Knox, Thomaston	Sep 22-24
Knox, North, Union	Sep 29-Oct 1
Lincoln, Newcastle	Oct 6-8
Oxford, South Paris	Oct 6-8
Oxford, East, Dixfield Village	Oct 6-8
Oxford, West, Fryeburg	Oct 13-15
Penobscot, West, Exeter	Sep 30-Oct 2
Piscataquis, West, Abbot Village	Sep 30-Oct 1
Portland Horticultural, Portland	Sep 22-25
Sagadahoc, Bath	Sep 29-Oct 2
Somerset, West, North Anson	Oct 6-7
Washington, Pembroke	Sep 23-24
NEW HAMPSHIRE.	
Canterbury, Canterbury	Oct 90-21
Cheshire, Keene	Sep 16-17
Contoocook, Hillsboro' Bridge	Sep 22-23
Concord Horticultural, Concord	Sep 15-17
Coos, Lancaster	Sep 15-16
Grafton, Plymouth	Sep 17-18
Hillsboro' South, Milford	Sep 15-16
Merrimac, Concord	Sep 16-18
Stratford, Great Falls	Sep 22-24
VERMONT.	
Addison, Middlebury	Sep 3-4
Caledonia, St. Johnsbury	Sep 22-24
Lake River Valley, Northfield	Sep 16-17
Lamoille Valley, Morrisville	Sep 16-17
Washington, Montpelier	Sep 22-24
MASSACHUSETTS.	
Berlin, Berlin	Sep 30
Essex, Danvers	Sept. 29-30.
Middlesex, Concord	Sept. 15-16.
Middlesex North, Lowell	Sept. 24-26.
Middlesex South, Framingham	Sept. 22-23.
Worcester, Worcester	Sept. 21-25.
Worcester West, Barre	Sept. 24-25.
Worcester North, Fitchburg	Sept. 29.
Worcester Northwest	Oct. 1.
Worcester Southeast, Milford	Sept. 30, Oct. 1-2.
Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden, North-ampton	Oct. 7-8-9.
Hampshire, Amherst	Sept. 29-30.
Hampden, Westfield	Oct. 6-7.
Hampden East, Palmer	Sept. 15-16
Union, Blandford	Sept 16-17.
Franklin, Greenfield	Sept. 30-Oct. 1.
Deerfield Valley, Charlemont	Sept. 29-30.
Berkshire, Pittsfield	Oct. 6-7-8.
Housatonic, Great Barrington	Sept. 30-Oct. 2.
Hoosac Valley, North Adams	Sept. 22-23-24.
Norfolk, Readville	Sept. 24-25.
Bristol, Taunton	Sept. 23-24-25.
Bristol Central, Myrick's	Sept. 16-17-18.
Plymouth, Bridgewater	Sept. 22-23-24.
Hingham, Hingham	Sept. 23-24
Marshfield, Marshfield	Oct 7-8-9.
Barnstable, Barnstable	Sept. 15-16.
Nantucket, Nantucket	Sept. 30-Oct. 1.
Martha's Vineyard, West Tisbury	Oct. 6-7-8.
Southboro' Farmers' Club, Southboro'	Sep 26
Farmers' and Mechanics' Club, (town,) Attleboro'	Oct. 6-8
Norfolk, (town,)	Oct. 7-8
Groton Farmers' Club, (town)	Sept 23
Littleton Farmers' Club, (town)	Oct 13
Pepperell Farmers' Club, (town)	Oct 7
CONNECTICUT.	
Bloomfield	Oct 1
Meriden, West Meriden	Sept 23-25
Union, Wallingford	Sept. 30-Oct 1
Milford and Orange, Milford	Sep 29-Oct 1
Guilford	Oct 7
Woodbridge and Bethany, Woodbridge	Sept. 21
New London County, Norwich	Sep 22-24
Fairfield Co., Norwalk	Sep 15-19
Danbury	Sept 21
Ridgefield	Sep 29-Oct 2
Watertown	Sep 23-24
New Milford and Bridgewater	Sep 29-Oct 1
Windham County, Brooklyn	Sep 22-24
Woodstock	Sep 15-16
Middlesex County, Middletown	Sep 15-18
Tolland County, Rockville	Sep 30-Oct 2

DELEGATES FOR 1874,

To the Agricultural Fairs in Massachusetts, appointed by the State Board of Agriculture.

ROGER H. LEAVITT, to Essex, at Danvers, Sept. 29 30.

PAUL A. CHADBOURNE, to Middlesex, at Concord, Sept. 29 30.

DANIEL DWIGHT, to Middlesex North, at Lowell, Sept. 24-25.

JONATHAN HADLEY, to Middlesex South, at Framingham, Sept. 22-23.

ELIPHALET STONE, to Worcester, at Worcester, Sept. 17-18.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, to Worcester West, at Barre, Sept. 24-25.

JONATHAN MCELWAIN, to Worcester North, at Fitchburg, Sept. 29.

GEORGE M. BAKER, to Worcester Northwest, at Athol, Oct. 6-7.

ALBERT FEARING, to Worcester Southeast, at Milford, Sept. 30, Oct. 1-2.

THOMAS P. ROOT, to Hampshire, Franklin, and Hampden, at Northampton, Oct. 7, 8, 9.

BENJAMIN P. MUNN, to Hampshire, at Amherst, Sept. 29 30.

ENSIGN H. KELLOGG, to Hampden, at Westfield, Oct. 6-7

HENRY S. GOODALE, to Hampden East, at Palmer, Oct. 13-14.

AVERY P. SLADE, to Union, at Blandford, Sept. 16-17.

S. B. PHINNEY, to Franklin, at Greenfield, Sept. 24-25.

HORACE P. WAKEFIELD, to Deerfield Valley, at Charlemont, Sept. 29 30.

HORACE M. SESSIONS, to Berkshire, at Pittsfield, Oct. 6, 7, 8.

ELNATHAN GRAVES, to Housatonic, at Great Barrington, Sept. 30, Oct. 1, 2.

LEVI P. WARNER, to Hoosac Valley, at North Adams, Sept. 22-24.

JOHN A. HAWES, to Norfolk, at Readville, Sept. 24, 25.

GEORGE B. LORING, to Bristol, at Taunton, Sept. 29 Hon. Oct. 1.

COURTLON SANDERSON, to Bristol Central, at Myrick's, Sept. 16, 17, 18.

HERRON VINCENT, to Plymouth, at Bridgewater, Sept. 23, 24, 25.

WILLIAM S. CLARK, to Hingham, at Hingham, Sept. 23, 24.

WHITNEY L. WARNER, to Marshfield, at Marshfield, Oct. 7, 8, 9.

JAMES F. C. HYDE, to Barnstable, at Barnstable, Sept. 15, 16.

O. H. HUSSEY, to Nantucket, at Nantucket, Sept. 30, Oct. 1.

JOSEPH N. STURTEVANT, to Martha's Vineyard, at West Tisbury, Oct. 6, 7, 8.

DEATH OF GUIZOT.—The celebrated French historian and statesman, Guizot has died during the past week, at a very advanced age. He had not taken an active part in politics for many years, but retained the vigor of his intellect to a remarkable degree in the latest years of his life. In many respects he was one of the foremost men that France has produced in the last century.

UNITARIANS IN CONFERENCE.—The sixth biennial conference of the Unitarian denomination was commenced at Saratoga on Tuesday, to continue through the week. A full attendance of ministers and delegates was present, and the conference proceeded at once to business. Hon. E. R. Hoar was appointed to preside.

☞ The Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad Company is erecting a new bridge over the Hockanum River, which is a considerable work, and requires judicious management to complete without interfering with the regular running of trains. On the meadows, in Hartford, new piling is being placed under the bridge just beyond the junction with the freight track of the Hartford and New Haven road, and the piers have been extended so as to admit of the laying of an additional track whenever the time arrives for a double equipment. All the present improvements of the road are made with reference to a double track in the future.

☞ The will of Benjamin F. White, filed for probate, bequeaths the greater part of his estate to his family. One thousand dollars goes to the children of Rev. Ezra S. Gannett, pastor of the deceased, and $4000 is left in trust with Joseph A. White, of Cavendish, Vt., the income from the same to be devoted to the interests of the district school in the village of Duttonsville, Cavendish.

—Some of our public spirited citizens have loaned a number of most valuable art treasures, pictures especially, to the Mechanics Fair.

—The horrors of the South African gold diggings are some of them just beginning to be understood.

New Advertisements.

Wanted.

THE HIGHEST MARKET PRICE will be paid for 100,000 Bushels of CIDER APPLES, delivered on cars. Apply to or address

J. HOLBROOK & SONS,
sep19-4t* Sherborn, Mass.

Shorthorn Bulls.

A FEW CHOICE ANIMALS for sale at FAIRVIEW STOCK FARM, Fitchburg, Mass.
sep19-3t A. & E. WHITMAN.

EUREKA CORN HUSKER
Philadelphia, Pa.
SELLS AT SIGHT. Does Two Men's Work. No sore or cold fingers. Best Cast Steel. Lasts a Lifetime. Taken 6 Premiums. Every Farmer wants them. Will send 3 Samples, postpaid, for 60 cents—or 4 Styles for $1.05. Agents wanted. PLUMB & CO., 108 South 9th St., sep19-4t

TEETH! TEETH!!

Sets of very handsome Teeth on the Improved Plate, from $10 to $25. Decayed Teeth Filled (restored to their natural shape and beauty,) with pure gold, from $1 to $5; with silver from 50 cents to $1. Teeth extracted by the use of Gas or Ether.

W. F. STONE, Dentist,
35 Winter Street, Boston.
sep19-13t Over Chandler & Co.'s.

10 TO $1000 INVESTED IN WALL STREET

often leads to fortune. No Risk. Our new pamphlet entitled "The Art of Speculation," sent free. J. HICKLING & CO., Bankers and Stock Brokers, 72 Broadway, New York, Box 1026. Stocks bought and sold on moderate margin. sep19-13t

New Advertisements.

NORFOLK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

26th Annual Exhibition, AT READVILLE,

On THURSDAY & FRIDAY, Sept. 24 & 25.

ADDRESS on FRIDAY, by JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, of Quincy.

TRIALS OF SPEED on the Track on the afternoon of each day.

The famous Stallion SMUGGLER will be on the grounds during the Exhibition.

THE
SONG MONARCH!

By H. R. PALMER of Chicago, with the distinguished assistance of Prof. L. O. EMERSON of Boston. These gentlemen, in the SONG MONARCH, present to the public a book unrivalled for the use of

SINGING CLASSES,

whether in the form of SINGING SCHOOLS, or in NORMAL MUSIC SCHOOLS, CONVENTIONS, COLLEGES, or ACADEMIES, and the higher COMMON SCHOOLS.

PRICE 75 CENTS. PER DOZEN, $7,50.

RICHARDSON'S NEW METHOD FOR THE PIANOFORTE.

The Most Popular Method ever issued; 250,000 already sold, and the book is received, if anything, with increasing favor from year to year. Teachers and Pupils buy

35,000 COPIES ANNUALLY!

Recently enriched by the addition of "CZERNY'S LECTURES ON THE ART OF PLAYING THE PIANO," and of "SCHUMANN'S MAXIMS." It is now a book of 260 large pages.

PRICE $3,75.

All books mailed, postpaid, for the retail price.

OLIVER DITSON & CO., Boston,
sep19-te CHAS. H. DITSON & CO.,
711 B'dway, New York.

GRAFTON MINERAL INSECT DESTROYER.

THIS article has been *carefully and thoroughly tested* in the past *five years by thousands of farmers* and others with perfect success as an *insect exterminator* on vegetables, vines, shrubbery, fruit trees, &c. It has also been successfully used on tobacco, to *destroy the worm and improve the growth and color of the plant.* This mineral has also been applied on hop plants with like favorable results.

Price $50 per Ton, in bags or Barrels delivered free on cars or boat here.

Analysis by Prof. S. W. Johnson.

Moisture	9.22
Animal Matter	61.79
Sand	1.90
Oxide of Iron	.63
Lime	13.35
Phosphoric Acid	11.64
Loss	.86
	100.00

*Contains Nitrogen, 7.58.

Analysis by Messrs. J. R. Nichols & Co.

(A different sample, made about two months later.)

Moisture	10.22
Animal Matter	55.41
Contains Nitrogen	7.89
Inorganic Matter	33.97
Contains Phosphoric Acid	12.15

Flour Price List:

Good Family Flour	$8,00
Extra	$8,50
Choice	$10,00
Our own brands of the very best St. Louis	$10,50

We warrant and deliver the above Flour, and if not proving satisfactory in every particular will be removed from your house without expense to you and the money promptly refunded.

We are also offering for the low price of 50 cts. per pound, a very fine flavored OOLONG or MIXED TEA, to which we defy competition. Other grades as per Price-List.

TEAS.

Good Oolong	50 cts	Good Japan	50 cts
Extra	60 cts	Choice	60 cts
Very Choice	75 cts	Very Choice	75 cts

ENGLISH BREAKFAST.

Good Eng. Breakfast	50 cts	Good Hyson	50 cts
Extra	60 cts	Extra	65 cts
Very Choice	75 cts	Very Choice	75 cts

GUNPOWDER TEA.....$1,00.

COFFEE.

Rio.....25 to 33 cts | Java.....33 to 38 cts

MOLASSES.

We are putting up for family use a very fine PORTO RICO MOLASSES, in 5 gallon kegs,.....at $3.50 a keg

SILVER DRIP SYRUP, in 5 gallon kegs,..$3.50 "

To those living at a distance we would say, orders sent by mail to the amount of $25,50, will be delivered by rail or express, free of charge, C. O. D. Remember the name and number.

SMITH BROS.,
73, 75 & 77 Blackstone St., Boston.
sep5-8t

JOSEPH W. CRIGG,

[Established 1852.]

DEALER IN ENAMELED SLATE

MANTLES AND BRACKET SHELVES,

Curriers' Slabs, Blackboards for Schools, and Slate Tables of all sizes.

Parlor Grates, Frames, Summer Pieces, Registers, &c. Garden Vases of all patterns.

No. 50 BROMFIELD STREET,
Horticultural Hall. BOSTON, MASS.
Mention this paper. my9-24t

O. C. CHAMBERLIN & CO.,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

And Dealers in

BUTTER, CHEESE, EGGS, &C.,

Nos. 70 & 81 Faneuil Hall Market,
BOSTON.

O. C. CHAMBERLIN,
A. W. CHAMBERLIN,
FRANK M. SULLIVAN,
Butter and Cheese Packed for Shipping. sa1-12t

Rifles, Shot Guns, Revolvers

OF EVERY KIND. Send stamp for Illustrated Price List to GREAT WESTERN GUN WORKS, Pittsburgh, Pa. ly11-19t

THE TOLL GATE!

Prize Pictures sent free! An Ingenious game! 80 objects to find! Address, with stamp, E. C. ABBEY, Buffalo, N. Y. ja15-52t

HERE'S MONEY FOR ALL!

Something Entirely New, by which Men and Women, Boys and Girls, the Weak and Invalid, can make money without labor or risk, or interfering with their present occupations, engagements and schools. A splendid opportunity. This is no Humbug. Know for Yourself. Full directions sent for one stamp. Address ADAMS & CO., No. 4 Pearl Street, Boston. ow31-au15

THE RANDALL PULVERIZING HARROW

A Complete and Perfect Working Implement.

It Thoroughly Pulverizes the Soil by Cutting, Lifting and Turning it Over.

It Cannot be Clogged.

The soil-working devices of the Randall Harrow consist of two series of concave Plate Wheels, with sharp cutting edges set obliquely to the line of draft.

For sale, wholesale and retail, by

E. E. LUMMUS & CO.,
No. 20 South Market St., Boston.
Send for Circular. au29-tf

"MAMBRINO LANCE."

THIS FINE STALLION will make the season of 1875, at

"MYSTIC PARK," MEDFORD, MASS.

TERMS.—$100 at time of service. Mares not proving in foal, can be returned the following season without charge.

Every care will be taken of Mares to guard against accidents, but they must be at the owner's risk.

"Lance" will be five years old next May, is full sixteen hands high, and weighs about 1130 pounds, is black, and of great bone and substance. He was purchased by his present owner of Dr. L. Herr of Lexington, Kentucky.

PEDIGREE.

Lance's sire was Dr. Herr's "Mambrino Patchen," own brother to the celebrated "Lady Thorne," sire of Robert Bonner's "Bertie."

"Lance's" first dam, "Lucy Garnett," by "Endorser;" by "Wagner" out of "Fanny G.," by imported "Margrave," "Fanny G" out of "Miss Lancer," by "Lance" by "American Eclipse." 2d dam "Lucy Fowler," by imported "Albion." 3d dam by imported "Leviathan" 4th dam by "Pacolet." 5th dam by "Topgallant." 6th dam by "Gallatin," &c. &c.

Among "Mambrino Patchen's" colts are "Sweater's *Hattie*," who at two years old trotted a full mile in 3.41 and a two mile heat in 7.29; "*Baron Rochester*" at two years old trotted 2 miles in 2.53; "Stout," filly, 1 year old, 1872, trotted 2 mile heat, 1st mile 3.05, 2d mile, 3.02—6.07. "Stout," filly, 2 years old, 1874—1st heat, 2.44; 2d do, 2.39; 3d do, 2.40½; 4th do, 2.38½.

Dr. Herr says of Mambrino Lance—"For size, style, speed, mechanical movements, breeding, temper and quality as a trotter and stock horse, I consider him the best and most valuable stallion colt I ever have seen."

There are, without doubt, a greater number of Mambrino Patchen's colts trotting fast of their ages, and selling for higher prices, on the average, than the get of any horse of his age.

AUGUSTUS TUFTS,
feb14-tf Malden, Mass.

BLACK FEARNAUGHT,

THIS promising young Stallion will make the season of 1874 for a limited number of mares, at

WINSHIP STOCK FARM,
WOBURN, MASS.

For terms and pedigree, apply on the premises. Also, BOARD FOR HORSES at all seasons of the year. je20-tf

Farm Wanted.

Wanted, a Farm of about 20 or 30 acres, with good buildings, not over three miles from village and Depot, in exchange for a two-story House of 10 rooms and quarter of an acre of land in a manufacturing village. Address, with full particulars, A. F. CUMMINGS,
sep12-2t* East Dedham, Mass.

Cranberry Farm.

By license of the Probate Court in and for the County of Middlesex, will be sold without reserve, at Public Auction, on the premises, in North Reading, in said County, on WEDNESDAY, the 30th day of September instant, at 1 o'clock P. M., about fifty-six acres of land, with the buildings thereon, situate on Concord street and Ipswich River, in said North Reading, the same being the estate of Samuel New Milford and Jonathan N. Batchelder, insane persons. Said premises consist of tillage, wood and meadow land, and presents an opportunity seldom surpassed for raising a large crop of cranberries.

For further particulars and terms, inquire of JOSEPH RAMES, near the premises.

JOSEPH RAMES, Guardian.
North Reading, Sept. 8, 1874. sep12-3t

Take Notice.

Farm for sale in Westminster, valuable for Hay, Wood and Timber. Also, one of 71 acres in Leominster, well located and very cheap. Call and see for yourself, or write, and tell the truth. Letters, with stamp, addressed to T. D. WOOD, North Leominster, Mass., promptly answered. sep5-tf

Valuable Farm and Vineyard,

TO LEASE FOR FIVE OR TEN YEARS.

IN VIRGINIA.

235 acres of land, 16 miles S. E. from Charlottesville, Va., 4 miles from James River Canal, 150 acres cleared and adapted to grass and clover—5 acres in vineyard and in full bearing—2 acres in young Peach and Apple Orchard. House 3 Barns, good Garden, Shrubbery in yard. Vineyard will yield 2 to 3000 gallons Wine annually; under good cultivation. Grapes can be shipped by rail to New York in 24 hours.

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The Poet's Corner.

OF TWAIN, ONE!

Twain bodies, sundered paths, a parted life,
Youth's happy morning merged in evening gloom,
And o'er two homes brooding, like primal doom,
Misunderstanding, acrimony, strife.
Yet one in heart; and with what blessings rife
That happy secret! Soul and spirit one,
So closely wedded that, though known to none,
God and His angels know them man and wife.
Never for them may chime the nuptial bell,
Nor rest their riven hearts in one dear home;
Yet to the world's fac limits they may roam,
And still that bond shall prove insoluble,
Faithful to death. Ah yes, they know it well;
Though one were lapped in that solemn sleep,
One doomed life's little vigil still to keep,
That love would bridge the gulf with potent spell,
Till weary waiting past, the vigil done,
There they should be of twain forever one!

Ladies' Department.

A NIGHT IN LONDON.

An American's Strange Adventure.

CHAPTER I.

I was seated on the crowded top of a London bus about to start to Kensington, when a woman, neither young, handsome, or well dressed, carrying a heavy basket, began to climb the steps with some difficulty. I reached down and lifted her basket, gave her my place, and squeezed myself on the seat forward. The addition was not particularly welcome to the pfior occupants, for there was only "room for one more:" but the old woman with a basket would have been still less welcome, and the phlegmatic Bull on my right contented himself with a grunt and a look at his watch, which plainly meant, "Time's up. St. Paul is a minute slow."

"You are an American, I perceive, sir," said the gentleman on my left.

"Yes; and you have been in America."

"I understand. You think I would have waited for an introduction if I had not. Very good; consider that we are introduced. You are Smith; I am Brown. No cards. Quite right. I spent several years in your country. Come home on business—settlement of estate, you know. When I get through, I think I shall go back and become an American subject."

"Citizen, you mean."

"Beg your pardon—of course I do; trick of the tongue, you know. Citizen—subject: S-u-b-j-e-c-t, c-i-t-i-z-e-n; what a deal of difference it makes how you spell it! Nothing in a name? Give Tray a bad one, and he won't think so. The world is governed by names. Do you think Palmerston would be Premier if his name were 'Bullyrag?' More wars have been fought over names than over all other causes combined—mind, I think, was over the correct spelling of a name. The placing of a vowel made a difference in the plan of redemption."

We rattled for some time over the stony streets, my companion apparently absorbed in his philosophy, when he suddenly exclaimed: "Well, you must admit the gooseberries are larger in England than in the States?"

"Yes, for the sake of the argument."

"Tut, tut, man; for the sake of the truth."

"But names, you know—words—words—words."

"Eh! a palable hit! You can have civil and religious liberty, the bird of freedom, the ballot box that executes a freeman's will, and all that sort of thing—names, you know; but in the matter of gooseberries, I stand upon the eternal verities. You have the longest rivers, the largest lakes, the grandest falls, the fastest horses, and the prettiest women, but we have the biggest gooseberries. How long shall you stay in England?"

"A fortnight, perhaps. There is nothing of business or pleasure to keep me, only I can't get out of London."

"Right. London is a hard place to get out of. It may be ugly, foggy, dingy, smoky, rainy, nasty, but it is the world's maelstrom, and draws everything towards its vortex. Do you return to the city to dine? I get down here." (We had crossed the bridge.) "After dinner I shall go to 19 Leicester Square to have a bottle of wine and a cigar. If you you. There is a sign over the door, 'Good wine needs no bush.' Go up stairs—first room to the left. I shall bring a half-dozen English gooseberries. Good-day!"

I had nothing better. In fact, I was simply floating on the vast circles of the London maelstrom, and after a solitary dinner at the "Wellington," I found my friend Brown at the place he had appointed, with his cigar, port, and the *Times*.

"Glad to see you," said he. "Being idle, we can afford to be prompt. Nothing else to think about, you know. Deal of humbug about punctuality—a man is not a clock—a busy man's engagements will overlap. Strike when the iron is hot—work when you are in the vein. Your methodical man never gets above the treadmill."

"Is it because you are unmethodical that you are reading the *Times* after dinner?"

"Oh, no; I am methodical—slave to habit. Inherited my servitude, I dare say; can't remember that I ever had individuality. In the morning I read the *Star* or the *Telegraph*—that's my American side; I am a Yankee in the forenoon; in the afternoon I grow conservative, and take to the *Post* and *Times*. By the way, I see the Government was nearly beaten last night on a vote. Shouldn't wonder if old Palm had to go out, and Derby or Dizzie should come in."

"That reminds me—tell me how a new Prime Minister is selected when the old resigns. It is a mere fiction, I suppose that the Queen designates the man who is to organize and lead the Government. In the United States, you know, we, the people, elect the President, and he appoints the Cabinet."

"So you do; but I believe you, the people, don't each select the man you prefer and vote for him. You vote, if I remember rightly, for presidental electors, and they vote for a man to be selected by a convention, and that—you know better than I how it is. In Great Britain, the House of Commons is supposed to represent the people, and probably does as well as the "National Convention" with you; though I should not care to inquire too curiously how many members gain their seats. The opposition agree among themselves who shall be their leader when they come into power; he consults with the chiefs as to the make-up of the Government, kisses the Queen's hand, and the seats are transferred. A lay figure would answer very well for the Queen, not be so expensive—or prolific—but names, you know! We should not be so willing to be shot or head-shortened for her majesty of wax and wires. I forgot—here are your six gooseberries, large as cherries; you can keep the Mississippi and Niagara—your half of it at least—but a Barbary horse against a rapier we are ahead on gooseberries."

Half-a-dozen or more gentlemen had dropped in, taken their seats at the tables, sipping and smoking, no one apparently taking notice of his neighbor, when a young fellow entered whom, if I had met in New York, I should have taken for a genteel specimen of the Bowery boy. He was short, stout, square-jawed, close-shaved and cropped, and might easily be older than at first glance he looked.

"Would h'any gent like to buy this 'ere wallet?" was his salutation.

No one offered to invest.

"Will sell it for two crowns—can't buy one like it h'on Regent street for four."

No reply.

"If no gent wants to buy the wallet, I'll put it h'up h'against two crowns with h'any gent as wants to bet that he can turn over the hace."

So saying, he produsced three cards—ace, queen, and seven—placed them bottom up on the table, and began playing them under and over, "French monte" fashion.

"I don't want your wallet, or care to bet two crowns; but I'll put up half a sovereign I can guess the ace," said one of the company.

"Make it a sovereign, won't you. I've got just one sovereign left."

"Oh, yes."

He turned the queen.

"Couldn't get by woman, you see; that's your particular weakness. Try again, sir?"

A suspicion flashed across me that my philosophic friend Brown had invited me there to be fleeced at "three-card monte." The look of amazement of the man who turned the queen could scarcely be simulated, and if he had been a capper he would probably have won. I lit a cigar, and watched the game with awakened curiosity. Every man in the room seemed to be certain he could guess the winning card. I never saw men become so suddenly interested and excited about anything so simple. Bets run up to five pounds. In thirty minutes the dealer must have cleared from fifty to a hundred pounds.

"Try your luck, sir?" said the dealer to me as the game lulled.

"I thank you, no. I once saw a man hanged for playing that game 'not wisely but too well,' and I have had a prejudice against it ever since."

"If I thought that there had been cheating, I'd throw the fellow out of the window," said one of the losers.

"Fa'r game; nothing but luck, 'pon honor," said the dealer. "If h'any gents wants to try——"

"Hanged!" you say, interrupted Brown. "Tell us about it."

I told in a few words the story of young Rowe, who was hanged in Sacramento in '51 for killing a man at French monte."

"What did you call his name?" asked the dealer.

"He was a Liverpool lad; his name was Edward Rowe."

It was a fancy, perhaps—I thought the dealer started as though stung.

"Hanged without judge or jury?" exclaimed Brown.

"Names, names—names, you know."

"Yes; names may have their uses. Let us go over to the Alhambra. We can hear some fine music there; this room is confounded close."

CHAPTER II.

A few steps brought us to the Alhambra. The large and brilliantly lighted saloon was pretty well filled with gentlemen and ladies—the latter, I supposed, of the demi-mode for the most part—laughing, talking, smoking, and sipping coffee and wine at the little tables—some hundreds in all. At the far end of the room was a fine orchestra, that served to fill in the pauses of conversation for everybody. The scene was very gay and animated. We had not sat many minutes before I observed a lady facing us, three tables in front, whose face and figure would anywhere have arrested attention. She was a Minerva or a Juno—large, well formed, with fair complexion; her arm beneath a loose, fur cape, looked as smooth, white and firm as marble. Brown and I must have seen her and noticed one peculiarity at the same time, for I heard him exclaim, in an under, soliloquy tone: "Eyes blue as the blue of heaven; hair black as the hinges of h—l." She had a far away look. One could be certain she saw nothing, heard nothing around her. I could not but wonder what visions filled her eyes, to what voices was she listening, and why was she there. After hearing several pieces and two or three songs we arose to go. I am sure it was not intentional on my part; I don't know which started first—the lady was immediately behind us. Brown loitered for a moment. As I turned for him at the door I could only observe that he had addressed her a remark, and infer that her reply, whether it was a look or a word, was short and unsatisfactory. It was raining quite sharply. My tongue is not accustomed to speak itself, but it did this time, and said:

"Shall I call a cab for you, madame?"

"If you will be so kind."

The lady had no umbrella. I offered her mine, and walked with her to the cab. I did not understand the direction she gave the driver, but caught the words, "drive slow," as she took her seat. The driver still held the door open, evidently supposing I was to get in. I did as most Americans abroad would do under similar circumstances—yielded to the impulse of adventure; and the door closed upon me as the thought came, "how foolish."

"You are an American, I suppose," said the lady, as we started.

The similarity to the remark of Brown in the morning struck me. Could it be that this was a second scheme to ensnare me?

"Why do you suppose so?"

"I might say, now, because you answer with a question. I did suppose from your general appearance and voice; besides, you wear a soft hat."

"You are observing."

"Sometimes."

"Did you know the gentleman who was with me at the cafe?"

"I did not know there was a gentleman with you. Was the man who spoke to me as I came out your friend?"

"He was my companion this evening, I never met him until this morning."

"You seem to be fond of adventure?"

The devil took possession of my tongue to say—what could have been more imprudent?—"I am almost a total stranger in London, where I shall remain but a few days. Not, perhaps, naturally adventurous; I have deliberately tied up the helm to float wherever the winds and currents shall carry me on this vast ocean of London life."

"It is a dangerous experiment," she replied, in a tone that was earnest and pathetic, "this tying up the helm and abandoning self direction, even for an hour, a moment. We cannot afford to play with life and can drop the reins in the race."

"You believe, then, in the power of self-direction?"

"Yes, within certain limits. Absolute free will is the vainest of all the vanities with which man ever deluded himself into the idea that he was a god. We have the power of choice, but within certain and very narrow possibilities. The mariner cannot control the winds, silence the storm, or remove the reefs; but he must stand by the helm. Are you a fatalist?"

"In theory, yes; in practice, no! I choose among the possibilities. But in reason I know my choice is predetermined by temperament, mental constitution, by all the chain of circumstances over which I have had no control, but which have made me what I am."

"Circumstances make us what we are?"

"Yes; if you had been born in Turkey would you not have been a Mohammedan?"

"Would I had been! Women have no souls there. I have admitted the range of possibilities is narrow. Birth, surroundings, etc., determine the range; but within that I insist upon the power to choose, which constitutes all we enjoy of free agency. If two courses are before you, both possible, can you not choose which to take?"

"I seem to choose. But really, only that is possible which I do take. Our friends can usually predict what we shall do in a given event better than we can ourselves. If a ball is subjected to two forces from opposite directions it must obey the stronger, though only the event proves which is the stronger."

"The illustration exposes the fallacy of the reasoning. You assume that mind and matter are governed by the same laws—motives and forces convertible terms. You cannot apply mathematics to morals, any more than you can the decalogues to the stars."

"You have thought upon this subject more deeply than I."

"Perhaps not. My conclusions do not come from speculation and study, but from experience and suffering. I am so much more a fatalist in action that I have to-night staked the most important event of my life upon an omen."

"And that omen is—"

"Yourself."

"You will find me a good omen, I hope."

"To one who abandons self-direction—to the fatalist—there is neither good nor bad, only the inevitable."

"You speak now like a fatalist from conviction, not from circumstances."

"No. The possibilities with me are reduced to two. I cannot choose. Fate must decide."

"How strange that our lives should intersect at this point. When we were born the chances were millions to one that we should never meet—millions of millions that we should not meet to-night. Is this fate?"

"I accept it as fate. Our lives cross others constantly, just as the weaver's shuttle flashes from hand to hand across the web, weaving the woof of destiny. You see I am a fatalist—without being able to shake off the sense of responsibility. Would—but let us talk of something else—the opera; Grisi and Mario; the Derby that was, the Osborn that is to be. My fate is not yet determined, and I do not want you to be a self conscious omen. Please ask the driver to go faster?"

We talked at each other, but shot wide. The driver struck a pace that was not favorable to conversation, and kept it up for half an hour or more. He drove through narrow streets, turned to the right and to the left, until I lost all idea as to the direction we were going or to the part of the city we were in. He stopped at last, and as I got out I observed that the street was broad, well lighted, and very quiet; the houses evidently residences, many of them elegant, and all of the better sort. Certainly it was a "respectable" quarter. I looked around for the dome of St. Paul's to take my bearings, but could not find it, or it was too dark to distinguish it.

"Wait for me," said I to the driver.

"But, your honor—"

"Here is a sovereign; I will pay the fare when I get home."

"All right, your honor."

While I was speaking to the driver, the lady had ascended the steps and stood in the open door. There was no one in the hall when we entered, nor any sign of life in the house, which was, however, lighted throughout. The hall was wide and high, extending up through both stories. The lady led the way back to a large sitting-room, asked to be excused for a few minutes, and left me alone. The room was simply but luxuriously furnished, the prevailing color blue with a delicate figure of black interwought. I never had seen the combination before, and thought of the eyes and the hair. There were books on the table, marbles and bronzes on the mantle, paintings on the walls; one of the latter had been reversed and hung with its face inward. I was in Calypso's Isle, and felt the presence of the siren in the very air.

The lady was absent long enough for me to become somewhat nervous, and to take a pretty thorough invoice of myself and of the contents of the room. The general conclusions I reached with more or less certainty were; that I had acted the fool—and would again under the same circumstances; that the tapistry, curtains, carpets, etc., had been manufactured for my mysterious friend; that she had the use of money in abundance, whether her own or not; that something had happened or was about to; that the reversed painting had been recently turned to the wall, and was in some way connected with the real or imaginary question which I was involuntarily to decide.

One feels so stupid to be found alone, doing absolutely nothing, that I took a seat by the table, and commenced turning over the leaves of a book with an affectation of nonchalance I by no means felt. The book was a volume of Shakspeare, and I opened the book at "Hamlet." When the lady entered I was surprised into self forgetfulness, and at the moment would not have exchanged my folly for a crown of wisdom set with rubies and diamonds. She was radiantly beautiful. She seemed to have become smaller, paler, and her eyes darker. She had changed her dress for one of light silk, a white lace cap hung loosely from her shoulders, and over it her hair was thrown back in silk like curls. Her throat, arms, bust, face, complexion, head, form—I may have dreamed of such a combination of loveliness; I had never before seen it.

She carried a small silver tray, upon which were two glasses of wine. It was a time to observe everything, and I noticed that the glasses were of different sizes and shapes. I stood in the silent homage of admiration until she placed the tray on the table, when, without speaking, involuntarily I took her hand, led her to a lounge, and seated myself opposite to her, her face and my back to the light.

"Pardon me, madam——"

"You may call me Helena."

"Pardon me, then, Helena, if I, too, consult an omen, after the manner of the Virgilian lots."

I opened the book and read: "*It is the poisoned cup—it is too late!*"

I looked her steadily in the face; it was marble in color and immobility.

"Which of us," I said slowly, "shall select the glass to drink? The chances of destiny may be narrowed to two, still there is a choice! Color, size, shape, position, or whim may determine it—that is free agency. All unknown, life may be in the one, death in the other—that is destiny."

"Then," said she, "you can cheat destiny, and drink neither."

"I am not sure of that, even when forewarned; and if I did, I might encounter the same chances in any hour of my life in turning to the right or left."

"Do you imagine," she replied, after a pause, "if I had intended there should be a victim, and chance select which, that I would have brought dissimilar glasses?"

I opened the book and read: "*Laertes wounds Hamlet; then in scuffling they change rapiers, and Hamlet wounds Laertes.*"

"I might," said I, "imagine a great many things, and they might all be very absurd, for I confess the scene seems more dream like than real. Indulge me for one moment if I imagine a case: One of the glasses, we will suppose, is poisoned; upon a given event you intend to drink it. Would it not be better for me, to give me the poison? The police can easily trace me to this house; my statement of the facts would never be accepted as an explanation of your mysterious death. I have no friends in London, no acquaintances. I do not think I fear death more than most of men, but I have some choices as to the manner of my taking off, and without flattery prefer your hand to Calcraft's."

Her fingers were clutched as though upon the hilt of a dagger.

"You see, then," I added, "destiny might revenge itself if I should attempt to cheat. It is something dangerous to trifle with fate."

I arose and took up the larger glass. She did not move, and I set it back.

CHAPTER [illegible]

Resuming my seat, I said—"If you will allow me, I will relate to you a chapter from my own experience. Destiny will not begrudge us half an hour."

She did not speak, but I understood her look, and changed my seat to a chair beside her, so that our faces were both to the light. She was toying with the tassel of the lounge; the gesture might have been one of impatience, or nervous control. I was not sure that I would interest her, but I proceeded as follows:

"When I was scarcely 'out of my teens,' I left my home in one of the Atlantic States and went to California. I will not detail the circumstances of the first two years of my life there, which brought me into the mental condition I am about to describe. There had been trifles that bring remorse like guilt, and weakness often stains like wickedness. I found disappointment in my new home, suspecting treachery in my old. Only partially recovered from severe illness, I was weak, morose, gloomy, angry with the world and myself. With as much deliberation as it is possible to exercise under such circumstances, and upon such a subject, I determined to commit suicide. It may seem strange, but it is true, I found it more difficult to decide the manner than resolve the act. I tried to familiarize my imagination with different forms of violent death, but the more I entertained them, the more repulsive they seemed. I felt that I could take poison, but feared exposure in the attempt to get it. I was in this mood for days. One evening, with the impulse of desperation, I entered a drug store in San Francisco, and asked for five grains of morphine. I had often been as far as the door before on the same errand, but my heart had failed me. To my surprise, the druggist, who was an elderly and benevolent looking man, gave me the morphine without a remark, contenting himself with writing *poison*, in large letters, upon the package. I hurried to my room, and locked myself in. I dissolved the powder, and gazed upon the liquid with a strange feeling of exultation. Now, thought I, I am the master of my fate. At last I have supreme control over what is my own. Mine? Both worlds are mine! This key unlocks the door of the great mystery. Soon I shall know more than the sages of the earth of what we most desire to know, or find that sweetest antidote, oblivion. Now I shall be revenged upon those who have decried or betrayed me; they shall be tortured with a vain remorse. The burden shall roll from my heart upon them; now I shall escape from myself!

"I drank the poison. In an instant my feelings changed; I was no longer master. I had become the slave of an act that was done. I had locked the door upon one world—might I not take up the burden in the next to find there was no escape? I thought of the Coroner's inquest; the burial in 'Potter's Field;' the item in the newspapers. Perhaps my death would bring relief rather than remorse to the hearts I would wring. All the descriptions of the eternal doom of the wicked that I had heard in my childhood came back to me. Gradually, under the potent influence of the drug, I lapsed into a state of semi-consciousness. My hearing became so acute that the sounds from the street were like the noise of a battle. I fancied that I could hear the circulation of my blood, and it roared like Niagara. I know not how long this condition lasted; it seemed hours. I wondered how long I should be in dying. At length I became more tranquil, and felt as if sinking to sleep. I was buoyed upon the air. I was floating over a vast desert plain, with a sense of dreaming and swooning. No object was in sight but plain and sky. Then, far off, a tree grew before my eyes, slowly at first, but with increasing rapidity, until its foliage filled the sky and shut out the sun—the leaves were stripped by a storm—the tree was bare and dead, and changed into the skeleton of a giant! Then the waves of the sea commenced rolling towards me over the plain. They came nearer and nearer, storm driven, until the whole plain was submerged, and dashed higher and higher until the sky seemed to be the object of their wrath. The waters took fire and burned up. Clouds of ashes filled the air, and scorched and suffocated me. The ashes became snow, and chilled me to the bones—the flakes increased in size, and were turned into birds, great white birds with red beaks and fiery eyes; they circled about me in myriads, impatient to devour. The scene changed. A monstrous black eagle was rising upward, bearing the sky with him, while the horizon was closing in around me; the sky became a bell—its great clapper struck against the side with a sound like the 'crack of doom'—the door of my room was burst in, and I was half recalled to my senses by the appearance of a man.

"'Drink this,' said he, pouring a dark liquid into a glass. 'It won't hurt you; it's only coffee.'

"I obeyed like a child.

"'You forgot to pay me for that morphine, and as administrators are sometimes troublesome, I thought you might prefer to settle your estate to that extent, and I've come to collect the bill.'

"I threw some money on the table, and exclaimed—'Now, sir, I do not wish to be interrup—'

"'Yes, I understand. You do not wish to be interrupted in the last act—the dying scene. Young man, there was a mistake in the bills; that act won't be played to-night. It is postponed until there is a better house. Lie down on the lounge; it will be more comfortable, and I have a few words to say to you seriously. Do you think,' he went on, 'any man in his senses would sell a stranger five grains of morphine? I had noticed you come to my door several times, and always in the evening. When you asked me for five grains of morphine, I knew what it meant. If I had refused you, you might have bought a pistol, a cord, a razor, or jumped into the bay. I thought it best to give you a pretty good dose of morphine—as much as you could safely stand, but what you have taken is for the most part a very harmless powder. Drink some more coffee. I want your attention to what I am to say. This suicidal disease is very apt to attack men of your temperament at your time of life. The reason is that at that age they begin to discover that neither the world nor themselves are what they expected. How either is to be benefitted by the proposed remedy they do not stop to inquire. When you pass twenty-five, you will be out of danger of a recurrence of this moral malady. Now I want you to try a physiological experiment. Until you are twenty-five, consider yourself dead. Forget yourself. Care for no humiliations, count nothing a privation, avoid no dangers; do whatever you find in your pathway, without any regard to vanity, comfort, or advancement. You have given your life away, and need not give that any further consideration. Promise me, and I will call the doctor and his stomach pump. If it is a promise—drink some more coffee—call to see me when you are twenty-five, and you can pay me then.'

"He withdrew; and I was resolved to try the experiment.

"I did not find life a great battle, where I could make self renunciation a great act of heroism. On the contrary, it was a very tame affair, and none but myself were aware of the sacrifices I made.

"There were urgent reasons why I should find immediate employment. I accepted the first that was offered; it was to cull a lot of potatoes on the wharf, part of which were spoiled. Making wages beyond a living no object, I did not after that lack work. I was on the water front for more than a year assisting to load and unload vessels, doing odd jobs at the grain and vegetable stores, but refusing to make any long engagement, or to do any light work which would necessarily bring me into any kind of social relations. I slept in a sail loft, and ate with the sailors, stevedores, and longshoremen at the open bars about the wharves. Never speaking, except when necessary, I at length I know not how—came to be known as the 'Dead Man.' I accepted the soubriquet, and adopted Dedman as my name. As anxious to avoid intercourse with myself as with others, I was never idle when awake. An occasional long walk on Sunday afternoon was the only thing like recreation I allowed myself. The months went on—I scarcely counted them.

"I had been in this service more than a year, however, when 'destiny' played a card that changed the tenor of my life.

"Walking one Sunday evening along Meiggs' wharf, near the end I observed a nurse with a little girl four or five years old. A moment after I heard a scream, turned, for I confess the scene was more dream like than real. Indulge me for one moment if I imagine a case: One of the glasses, we will suppose, is poisoned; upon a given event you intend to drink it. Would it not be better for me, to give me the poison? The police can easily trace me to this house; my statement of the facts would never be accepted as an explanation of your mysterious death. I have no friends in London, no acquaintances. I do not think I fear death more than most of men, but I have some choices as to the manner of my taking off, and without flattery prefer your hand to Calcraft's.

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She did not speak, but I understood her look, and changed my seat to a chair beside her, so that our faces were both to the light. She was toying with the tassel of the lounge; the gesture might have been one of impatience, or nervous control. I was not sure that I would interest her, but I proceeded as follows:

"When I was scarcely 'out of my teens,' I left my home in one of the Atlantic States and went to California. I will not detail the circumstances of the first two years of my life there, which brought me into the mental condition I am about to describe. There had been trifles that bring remorse like guilt, and weakness often stains like wickedness. I found disappointment in my new home, suspecting treachery in my old. Only partially recovered from severe illness, I was weak, morose, gloomy, angry with the world and myself. With as much deliberation as it is possible to exercise under such circumstances, and upon such a subject, I determined to commit suicide. It may seem strange, but it is true, I found it more difficult to decide the manner than resolve the act. I tried to familiarize my imagination with different forms of violent death, but the more I entertained them, the more repulsive they seemed. I felt that I could take poison, but feared exposure in the attempt to get it. I was in this mood for days. One evening, with the impulse of desperation, I entered a drug store in San Francisco, and asked for five grains of morphine. I had often been as far as the door before on the same errand, but my heart had failed me. To my surprise, the druggist, who was an elderly and benevolent looking man, gave me the morphine without a remark, contenting himself with writing *poison*, in large letters, upon the package. I hurried to my room, and locked myself in. I dissolved the powder, and gazed upon the liquid with a strange feeling of exultation. Now, thought I, I am the master of my fate. At last I have supreme control over what is my own. Mine? Both worlds are mine! This key unlocks the door of the great mystery. Soon I shall know more than the sages of the earth of what we most desire to know, or find that sweetest antidote, oblivion. Now I shall be revenged upon those who have decried or betrayed me; they shall be tortured with a vain remorse. The burden shall roll from my heart upon them; now I shall escape from myself!

"I drank the poison. In an instant my feelings changed; I was no longer master. I had become the slave of an act that was done. I had locked the door upon one world—might I not take up the burden in the next to find there was no escape? I thought of the Coroner's inquest; the burial in 'Potter's Field;' the item in the newspapers. Perhaps my death would bring relief rather than remorse to the hearts I would wring. All the descriptions of the eternal doom of the wicked that I had heard in my childhood came back to me. Gradually, under the potent influence of the drug, I lapsed into a state of semi-consciousness. My hearing became so acute that the sounds from the street were like the noise of a battle. I fancied that I could hear the circulation of my blood, and it roared like Niagara. I know not how long this condition lasted; it seemed hours. I wondered how long I should be in dying. At length I became more tranquil, and felt as if sinking to sleep. I was buoyed upon the air. I was floating over a vast desert plain, with a sense of dreaming and swooning. No object was in sight but plain and sky. Then, far off, a tree grew before my eyes, slowly at first, but with increasing rapidity, until its foliage filled the sky and shut out the sun—the leaves were stripped by a storm—the tree was bare and dead, and changed into the skeleton of a giant! Then the waves of the sea commenced rolling towards me over the plain. They came nearer and nearer, storm driven, until the whole plain was submerged, and dashed higher and higher until the sky seemed to be the object of their wrath. The waters took fire and burned up. Clouds of ashes filled the air, and scorched and suffocated me. The ashes became snow, and chilled me to the bones—the flakes increased in size, and were turned into birds, great white birds with red beaks and fiery eyes; they circled about me in myriads, impatient to devour. The scene changed. A monstrous black eagle was rising upward, bearing the sky with him, while the horizon was closing in around me; the sky became a bell—its great clapper struck against the side with a sound like the 'crack of doom'—the door of my room was burst in, and I was half recalled to my senses by the appearance of a man.

"'Drink this,' said he, pouring a dark liquid into a glass. 'It won't hurt you; it's only coffee.'

"I obeyed like a child.

"'You forgot to pay me for that morphine, and as administrators are sometimes troublesome, I thought you might prefer to settle your estate to that extent, and I've come to collect the bill.'

"I threw some money on the table, and exclaimed—'Now, sir, I do not wish to be interrup—'

"'Yes, I understand. You do not wish to be interrupted in the last act—the dying scene. Young man, there was a mistake in the bills; that act won't be played to-night. It is postponed until there is a better house. Lie down on the lounge; it will be more comfortable, and I have a few words to say to you seriously. Do you think,' he went on, 'any man in his senses would sell a stranger five grains of morphine? I had noticed you come to my door several times, and always in the evening. When you asked me for five grains of morphine, I knew what it meant. If I had refused you, you might have bought a pistol, a cord, a razor, or jumped into the bay. I thought it best to give you a pretty good dose of morphine—as much as you could safely stand, but what you have taken is for the most part a very harmless powder. Drink some more coffee. I want your attention to what I am to say. This suicidal disease is very apt to attack men of your temperament at your time of life. The reason is that at that age they begin to discover that neither the world nor themselves are what they expected. How either is to be benefitted by the proposed remedy they do not stop to inquire. When you pass twenty-five, you will be out of danger of a recurrence of this moral malady. Now I want you to try a physiological experiment. Until you are twenty-five, consider yourself dead. Forget yourself. Care for no humiliations, count nothing a privation, avoid no dangers; do whatever you find in your pathway, without any regard to vanity, comfort, or advancement. You have given your life away, and need not give that any further consideration. Promise me, and I will call the doctor and his stomach pump. If it is a promise—drink some more coffee—call to see me when you are twenty-five, and you can pay me then.'

"He withdrew; and I was resolved to try the experiment.

"I did not find life a great battle, where I could make self renunciation a great act of heroism. On the contrary, it was a very tame affair, and none but myself were aware of the sacrifices I made.

"There were urgent reasons why I should find immediate employment. I accepted the first that was offered; it was to cull a lot of potatoes on the wharf, part of which were spoiled. Making wages beyond a living no object, I did not after that lack work. I was on the water front for more than a year assisting to load and unload vessels, doing odd jobs at the grain and vegetable stores, but refusing to make any long engagement, or to do any light work which would necessarily bring me into any kind of social relations. I slept in a sail loft, and ate with the sailors, stevedores, and longshoremen at the open bars about the wharves. Never speaking, except when necessary, I at length I know not how—came to be known as the 'Dead Man.' I accepted the soubriquet, and adopted Dedman as my name. As anxious to avoid intercourse with myself as with others, I was never idle when awake. An occasional long walk on Sunday afternoon was the only thing like recreation I allowed myself. The months went on—I scarcely counted them.

"I had been in this service more than a year, however, when 'destiny' played a card that changed the tenor of my life.

"Walking one Sunday evening along Meiggs' wharf, near the end I observed a nurse with a little girl four or five years old. A moment after I heard a scream, turned, for I confess the scene was more dream like than real. Indulge me for one moment if I imagine a case: One of the glasses, we will suppose, is poisoned; upon a given event you intend to drink it. Would it not be better for me, to give me the poison? The police can easily trace me to this house; my statement of the facts would never be accepted as an explanation of your mysterious death. I have no friends in London, no acquaintances. I do not think I fear death more than most of men, but I have some choices as to the manner of my taking off, and without flattery prefer your hand to Calcraft's.

Her fingers were clutched as though upon the hilt of a dagger.

"You see, then," I added, "destiny might revenge itself if I should attempt to cheat. It is something dangerous to trifle with fate."

I arose and took up the larger glass. She did not move, and I set it back.

CHAPTER [illegible]

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